SUMMER ISSUE

QUALITY COMIC GROUP

SM ★ S

The BARKER

10¢

Supermouse
Startling Comics
Jetta
Mystery Comics
Fantastic Tales
Cosmo Cat
Startling Comics
Strange Mysteries
Daring Adventures
Startling Comics
Mystery Tales
Exciting Comics
Famous Funnies
Strange Worlds
Startling Comics
Jetta
Mystery Tales
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Barnyard Comics
Exciting Comics
Eerie
Exciting Comics
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WEBCOMIC UNIVERSE.COM

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FEATURE COMICS

THESE TITLES ARE TOPS!

EMPIRE COMICS

CRACK COMICS

LOOK FOR THE SEAL OF QUALITY

QUALITY COMIC GROUP

PACKED WITH 60 PAGES OF ACTION, LAUGHS AND THRILLS!

HIT COMICS

NATIONAL COMICS

THE BARKER, Summer, 1947, No. 4. Published quarterly by Comic Magazines, 8 Lord Street, Buffalo, N. Y. Executive Offices, Gurley Building, 322 Main Street, Stamford, Conn. E. M. Arnold, General Manager. George E. Brenner, Editor. Application for entry as Second Class Matter pending at the Post Office, Buffalo, N. Y. The characters and events pictured herein are entirely fictitious. The Publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Editorial and Advertising Offices, 25 West 45th St., New York 19, N. Y. Copyright 1947 by Comic Magazines. Printed in U. S. A.

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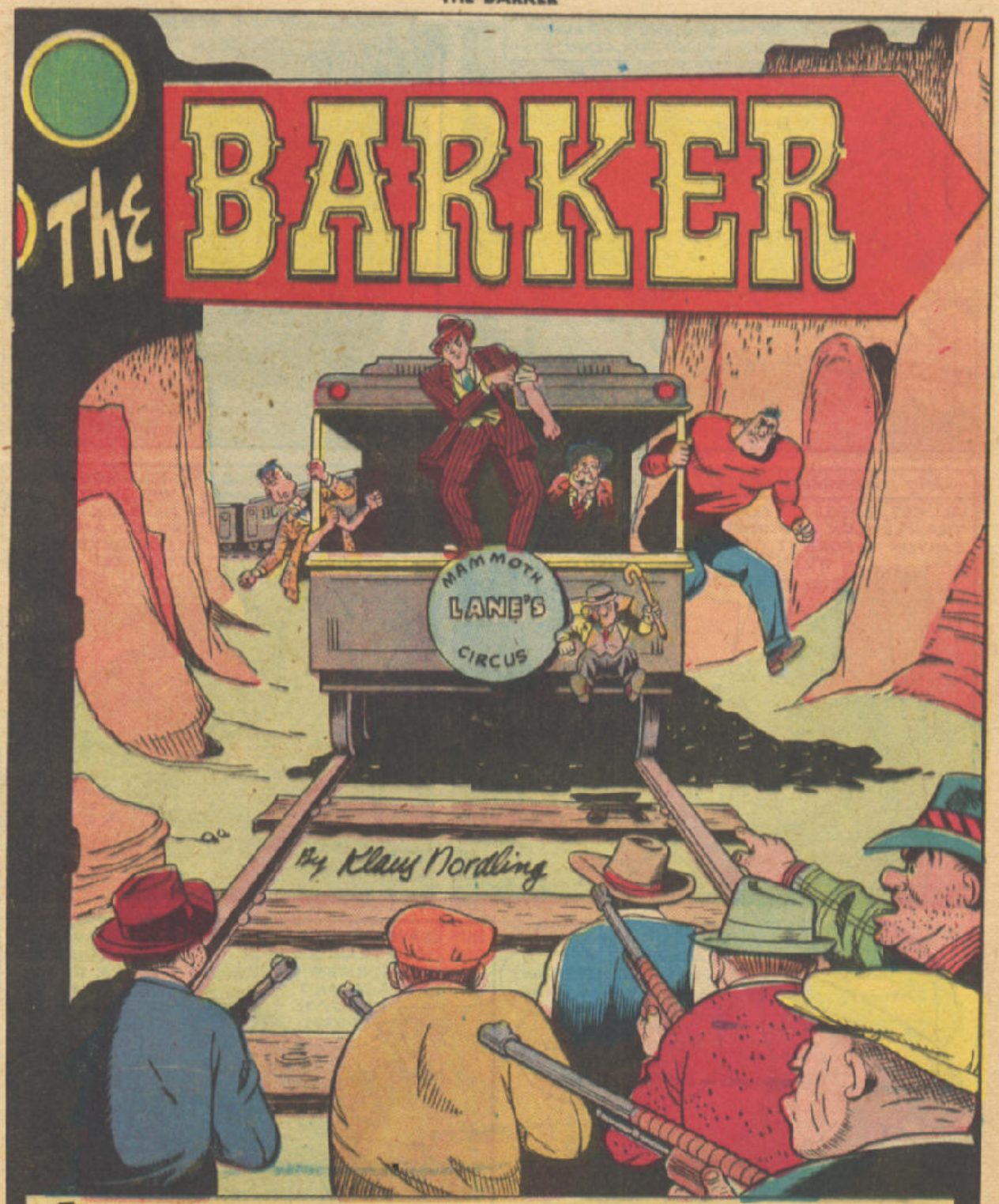
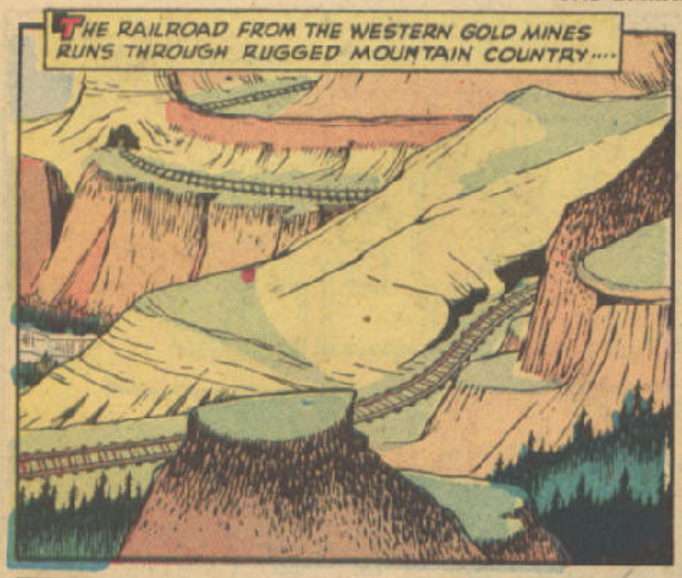
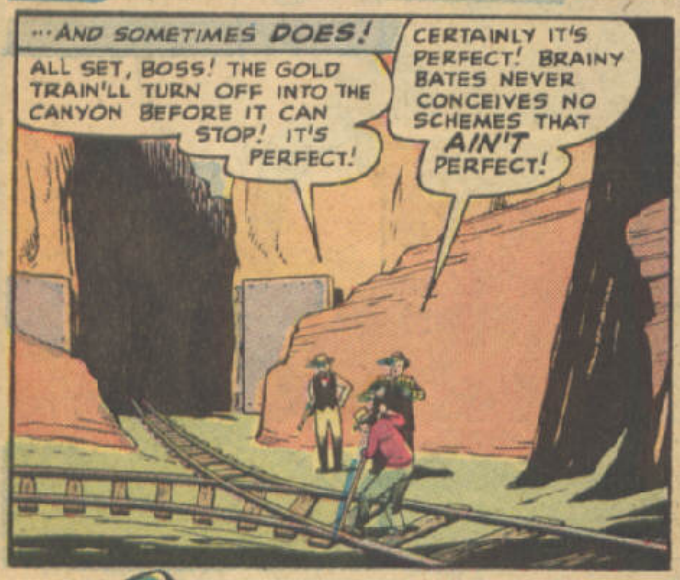


Brainy Bates had the imagination to plan fantastic crimes and the nerve and brains to execute them! It was his boast that no emergency ever caught him unprepared! ...That, of course, was before Brainy set a trap for a million dollars worth of gold bullion...and caught a train load of circus freaks...and ***before*** he tried to match wits with Carnie Calahan, *The Barker!*


THE RAILROAD FROM THE WESTERN GOLD MINES RUNS THROUGH RUGGED MOUNTAIN COUNTRY....

..WHERE ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN....


...AND SOMETIMES DOES!
ALL SET, BOSS! THE GOLD TRAIN'LL TURN OFF INTO THE CANYON BEFORE IT CAN STOP! IT'S PERFECT!
CERTAINLY IT'S PERFECT! BRAINY BATES NEVER CONCEIVES NO SCHEMES THAT AIN'T PERFECT!

WITH THE SPUR TRACK TORN UP AND THE DOORS SHUT, NOBODY'LL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GOLD EXPRESS!
WE'LL MOW DOWN THE GUARDS AND WALK OFF WITH A MILLION BUCKS WORTH OF GOLD BULLION! JACKPOT!

NATCH! IT IS A ACKNOWLEDGED FACT THAT NO BRAINY BATES SCHEME HAS EVER BLEW A FUSE! I AM, TO PUT IT MODESTLY, A CRIMINAL GENIUS, BOYS!

BUT LEAVE US NOT LALLYGAG! THE GOLD TRAIN'S DUE IN TWENTY MINUTES! EVERYBODY IN HIS PLACE AND READY TO SHOOT!
RIGHT, BRAINY! THEM GUARDS'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HIT 'EM!

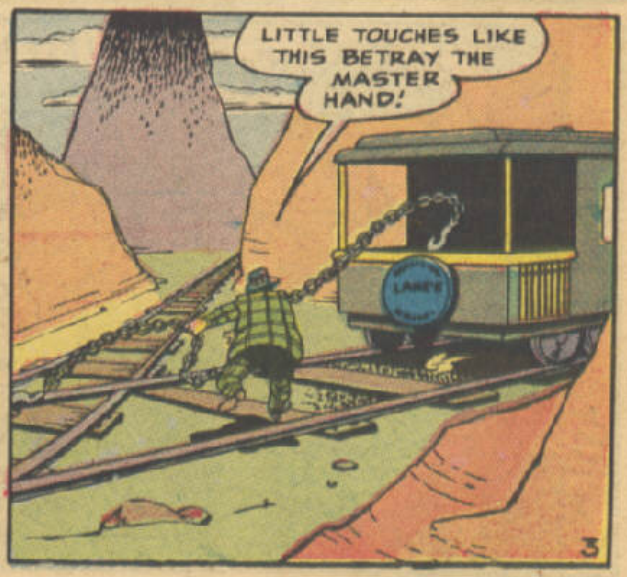
At that moment, not far down the track...
WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE, CARNIE! I THOUGHT FOR A WHILE WE'D HAVE TO MISS OUR DATE IN ELMTON COMPLETELY!
YOU AREN'T FOOLING, COLONEL!

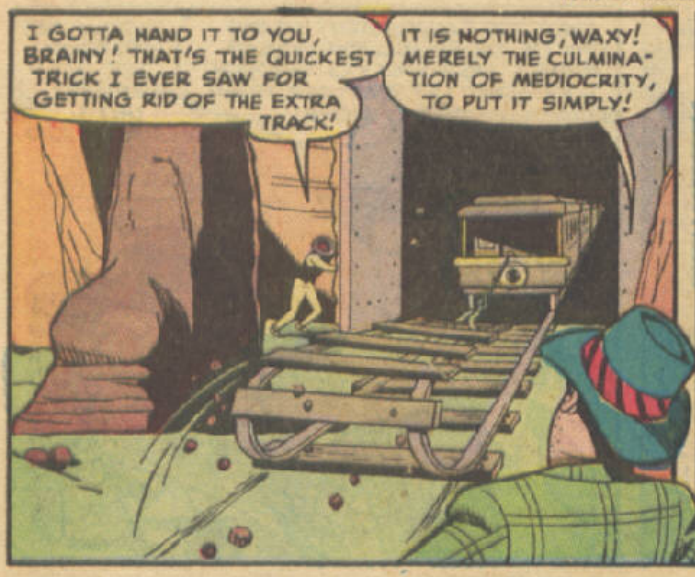
WHEN THE GOVERNMENT SENDS ONE OF THOSE MILLION-DOLLAR BABIES HIGH-BALLING THROUGH, THEY WON'T LET ANOTHER TRAIN MOVE!
LUCKILY THEY POSTPONED THE GOLD SHIPMENT UNTIL TOMORROW AND GAVE US THE CLEAR TRACK!

A MILLION BUCKS IN GOLD BULLION! WOW! PLENTY OF HEISTERS WOULD LIKE TO GET THEIR MITTS ON A HAUL LIKE THAT!
QUITE RIGHT, MIDGE! FORTUNATELY TRAIN ROBBERIES ARE A THING OF THE PAST, HOWEVER!

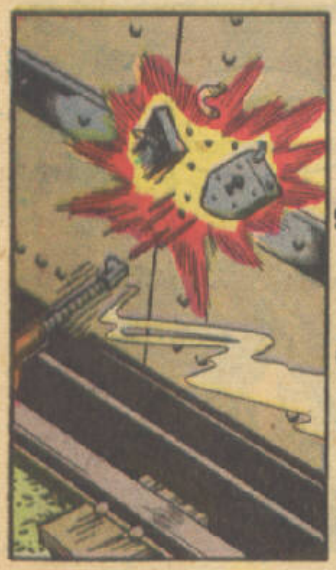
HERE SHE COMES! RIGHT ON TIME! I'LL HANDLE THE HOOK MYSELF!
ON YOUR TOES, EVERYBODY!

SOMETIMES I AM SO STUPENDOUS I SHOCK MYSELF!
HEY! WHAT THE...?


LITTLE TOUCHES LIKE THIS BETRAY THE MASTER HAND!

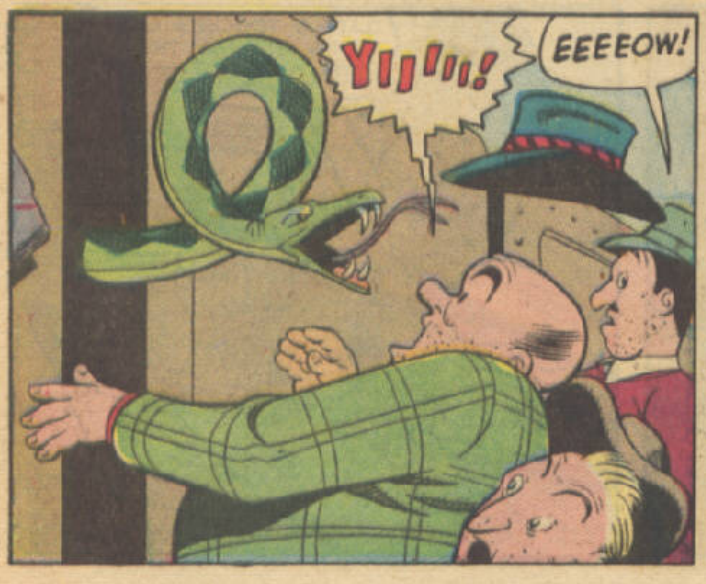

I GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU, BRAINY! THAT'S THE QUICKEST TRICK I EVER SAW FOR GETTING RID OF THE EXTRA TRACK!
IT IS NOTHING, WAXY! MERELY THE CULMINATION OF MEDIOCRITY, TO PUT IT SIMPLY!

HEY, BRAINY! NOT A GUARD SHOWED.... AND THEY GOT THIS PADLOCKED!
WELL, SHOOT OFF THE LOCK, STUPID!



KINDLY AWAIT YOUR TURNS, BOYS! AS GUIDING GENIUS, I AM ENTITLED TO FIRST LOOK AT THE LOOT!

I CAN HARDLY AWAIT THE FEAST OF GOLDEN GLORY THAT AWAITS MY INSPIRED EYES!

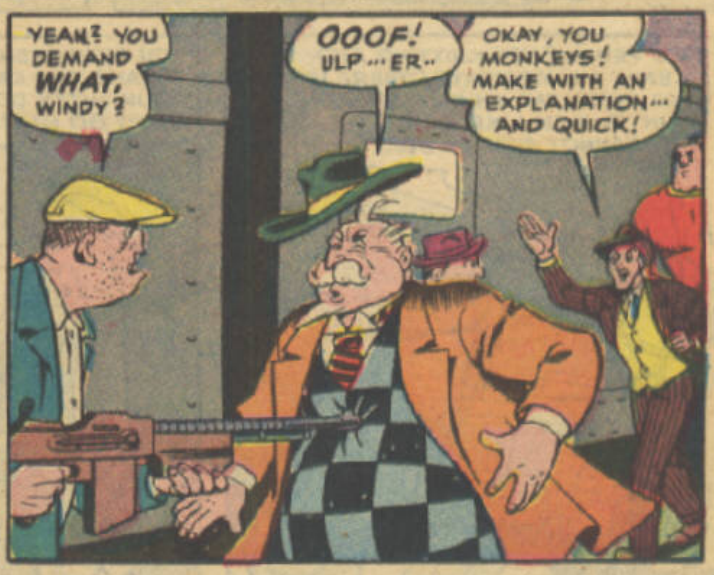

YIIIII!
EEEEOW!

I HEARD SHOTS, CARNIE! SOUNDED LIKE A TOMMY-GUN!
AND WE'VE GOT NO BUSINESS STOPPING IN THIS CUT! COME ON, GANG... AND HEADS UP FOR TROUBLE!

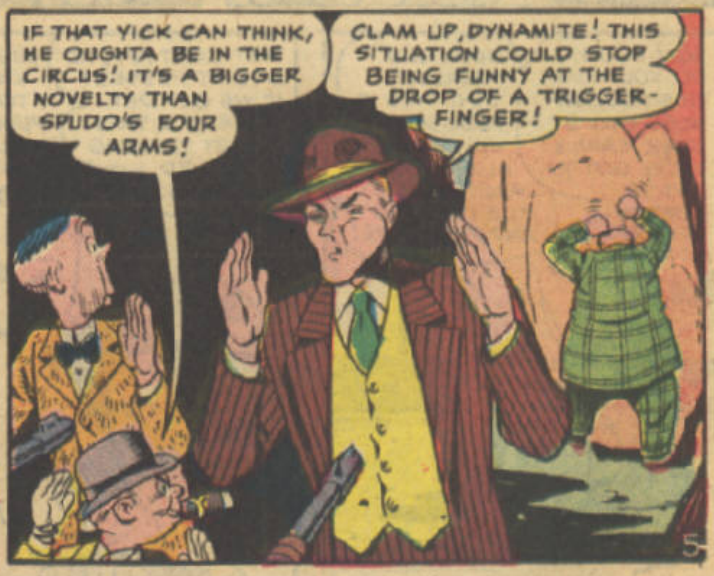
EEEK! BABY IS LOOSE!
WHAT TH...?
S-S-STICK 'EM UP-P-P!

POOR BABY! DID THESE NASTY MEN FRIGHTEN YOU?
B-BRAINY, DON'T L-LOOK NOW... BUT THIS AIN'T THE GOLD TRAIN!

IT'S GOTTA BE THE GOLD TRAIN! NO BRAINY BATES CALCULATION HAS EVER MISCALCULATED!
HERE, HERE! WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS UNSEEMLY DELAY! I DEMAND...


YEAH? YOU DEMAND WHAT, WINDY?
OOOF! ULP...ER..
OKAY, YOU MONKEYS! MAKE WITH AN EXPLANATION... AND QUICK!

SHADDUP! SHADDUP! SHADDUP! HOW IN #@&#*!?* CAN I THINK WITH ALL THIS YA-TA-TA YATA-TA GOIN ON?


IF THAT YICK CAN THINK, HE OUGHTA BE IN THE CIRCUS! IT'S A BIGGER NOVELTY THAN SPUDO'S FOUR ARMS!
CLAM UP, DYNAMITE! THIS SITUATION COULD STOP BEING FUNNY AT THE DROP OF A TRIGGER-FINGER!

HARRUMPH! I TAKE IT, SIR, YOU MISTOOK US FOR THE GOLD TRAIN! SINCE WE AREN'T, WE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY!
AND HAVE A MILLION COPS OUT HERE INSIDE AN HOUR? WOULDN'T THAT BE STUPID?

BUT, BRAINY, THERE AIN'T ENOUGH ROOM FOR ANOTHER TRAIN IN HERE ... AN' IF WE RUN THIS ONE OUT, IT'LL GIVE THE SETUP AWAY!
SO? A DOUBTING THOMAS, EH? MAYBE YOU THINK BRAINY BATES IS STUMPED, HAH?

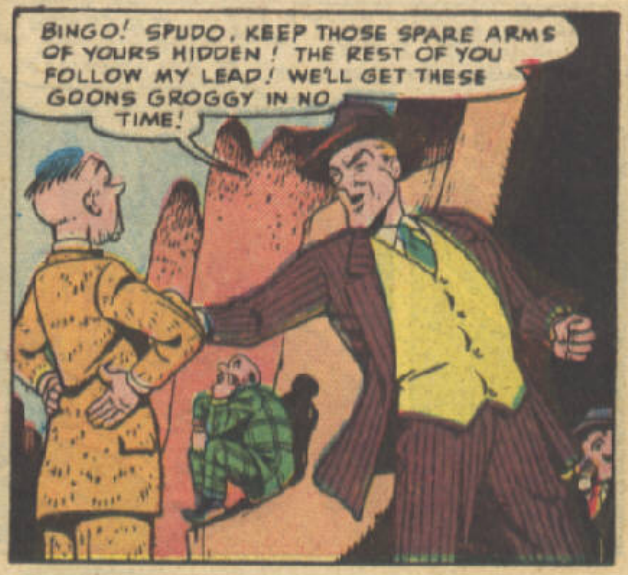
GO PEDDLE YER KNITTING AND LEAVE ME MEDITATE! THERE IS NO PROBLEM WHICH A MASSIVE INTELLECK LIKE MINE CANNOT SOLVE! BEAT IT!

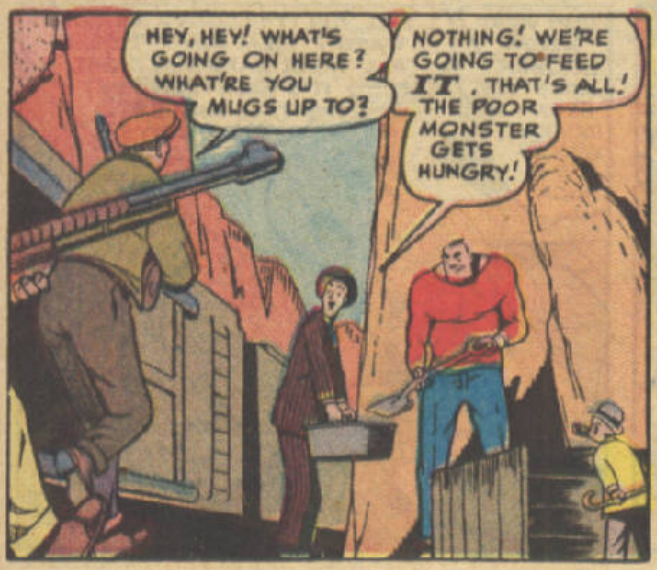
YOU GUYS SEEM TO BE CLEAN! YOU CAN PUT YOUR MITTS DOWN, BUT DON'T GO GETTIN' IDEAS!
THEN TURN THAT HEATER SOMEWHERE ELSE! MY STOMACH'S TIRED OF TRYING TO HIDE BEHIND MY BACK-BONE!

HOW SOON DO YOU THINK THIS FOOLISHNESS WILL BE OVER, CARNIE? WE'VE GOT TO GET TO ELM'TON BEFORE MORNING!
DON'T KID YOURSELF THAT THIS IS FOOLISHNESS, COLONEL! FOR ALL THE GOOFY ANGLES, THIS MOB IS TOUGH AND DESPERATE!

THEY CAN'T AFFORD LIVE WITNESSES! IF WE GET OUT ALIVE, IT'LL TAKE SMART THINKING AND HARD PUNCHING!
JUST LEMME KNOW WHEN TO START PUNCHING, CARNIE! THAT'S ALL I ASK!
AND DON'T GET RECKLESS! REMEMBER, THEY'D A LOT RATHER HAVE A MILLION DOLLARS THAN US BREATHING!

WOOP! I'M GETTING A BRAINSTORM, KIDS! IS THAT OLD WILD MAN CAGE STILL IN THE BAGGAGE CAR?
THE ONE WITH THE ELECTRICALLY-OPERATED DOOR TO SCARE THE PUBLIC? YEAH, IT'S THERE AND EMPTY!


BINGO! SPUDO, KEEP THOSE SPARE ARMS OF YOURS HIDDEN! THE REST OF YOU FOLLOW MY LEAD! WE'LL GET THESE GOONS GROGGY IN NO TIME!


HEY, HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHAT'RE YOU MUGS UP TO?
NOTHING! WE'RE GOING TO FEED IT, THAT'S ALL! THE POOR MONSTER GETS HUNGRY!

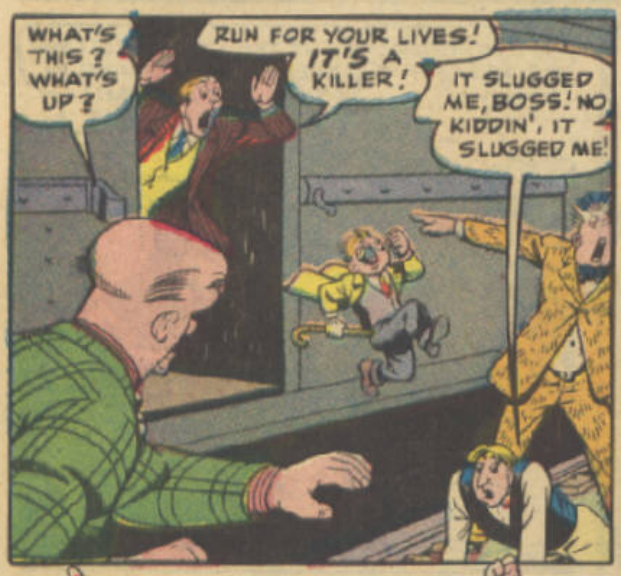
IT? MONSTER? ?ULP?
CUT THE COMEDY, CLOWN! THERE AIN'T NOTHING IN THAT BOX OR PAN! WHO YOU KIDDIN'?

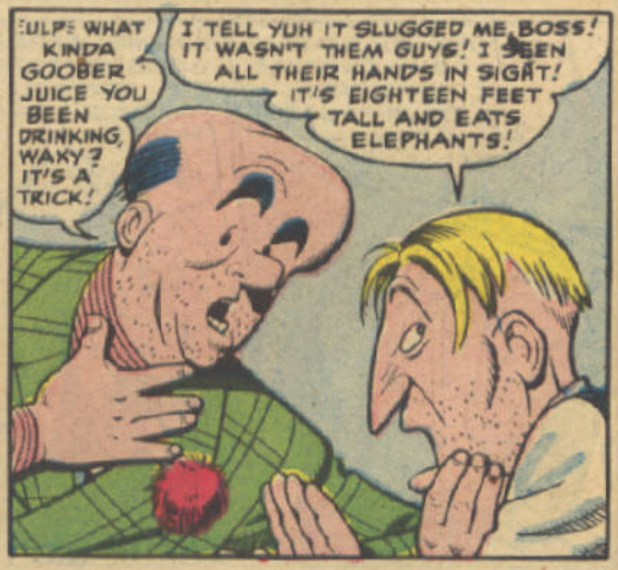
WHY, BOYS, HAVEN'T YOU HEARD OF IT, THE INVISIBLE MONSTER? HE'S OUR PRIZE ATTRACTION! NATURALLY, HE EATS INVISIBLE FOOD!
OKAY, CHUMP! WHAT'S THE GAG?

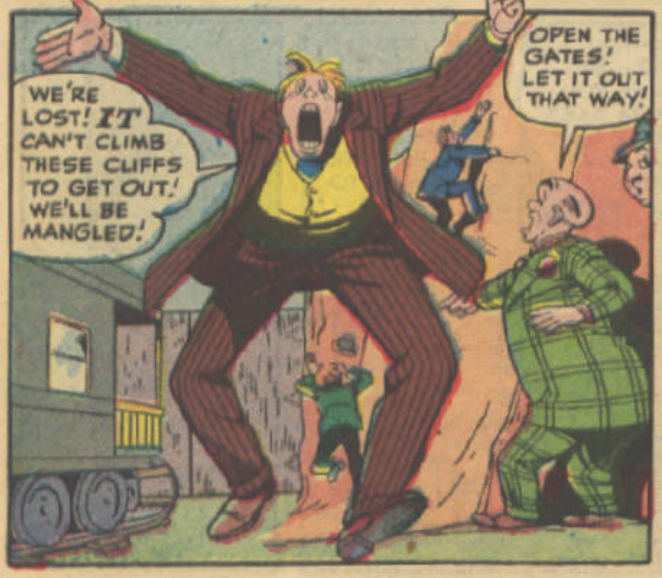
LAUGH, IF YOU WANT TO ... BUT I'D ADVISE YOU TO STAND BACK! IF IT EVER GOT HOLD OF YOU ... BRRR!
THAT'S RIGHT! REMEMBER THAT POOR ELEPHANT IT MANGLED SO BAD WE HAD TO SHOOT IT?

EEEOW! LOOK OUT! IT IS LOOSE! IT GOT THE CAGE OPEN SOMEHOW!
OH, FER CRIPES SAKE, CAN THE MALARKY! ULP

LOOK OUT!
OWOO!

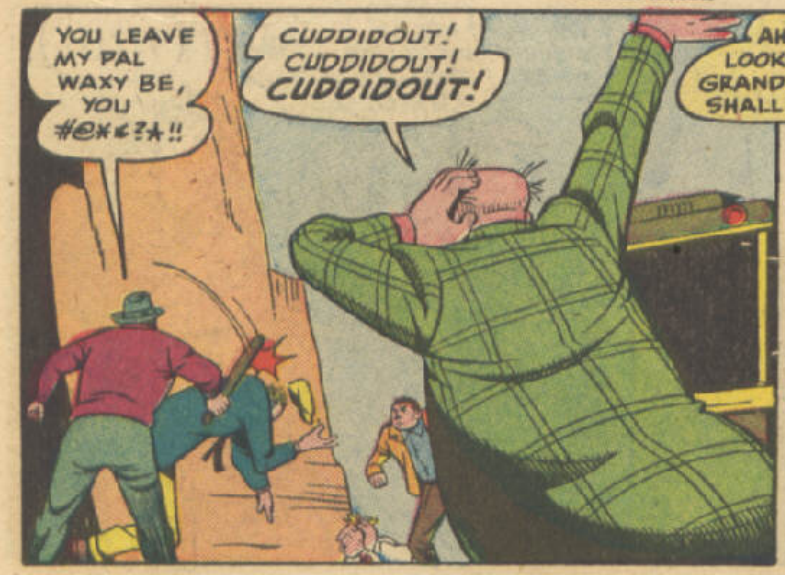

WHAT'S THIS? WHAT'S UP?
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! IT'S A KILLER!
IT SLUGGED ME, BOSS! NO KIDDIN', IT SLUGGED ME!


ULP WHAT KINDA GOOBER JUICE YOU BEEN DRINKING, WAXY? IT'S A TRICK!
I TELL YUH IT SLUGGED ME, BOSS! IT WASN'T THEM GUYS! I SEEN ALL THEIR HANDS IN SIGHT! IT'S EIGHTEEN FEET TALL AND EATS ELEPHANTS!


WE'RE LOST! IT CAN'T CLIMB THESE CLIFFS TO GET OUT! WE'LL BE MANGLED!
OPEN THE GATES! LET IT OUT THAT WAY!

BUT, BOSS, IF WE OPEN THE GATES, WE'LL GIVE AWAY OUR HIDING PLACE... AND THESE MONKEYS'LL GET AWAY TOO!
THEN THINK OF SUMP'N... ULP I MEAN SHADDUP SO I CAN THINK OF SUMP'N!

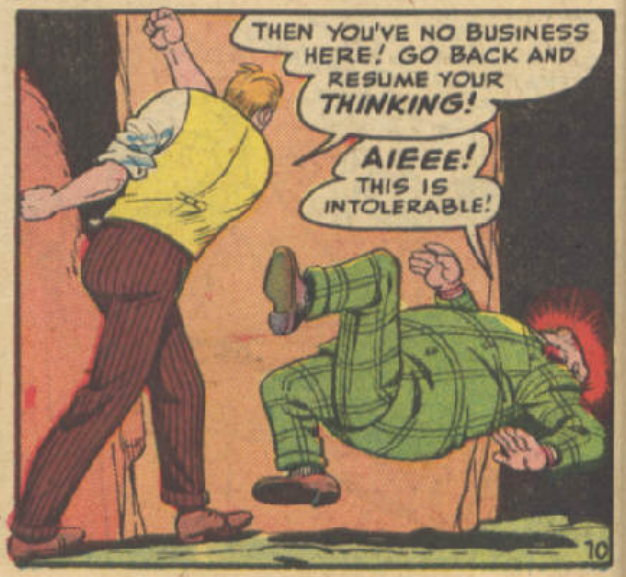
CAN WE START SLUGGING NOW, CARNIE?
NOT YET! WAIT TILL THE GATES ARE OPENED!
HEY, YOU! WHERE D'YUH THINK YOU'RE-- AWRRK! FOUR ARMS!
ULP!
YIIII!
INVISIBLE MONSTER, HAH? @#le**!!? YOU SLUGGED ME WITH ONE O'THEM SPARE LUNCH HOOKS!
EIGHTEEN FEET TALL AND EATS ELEPHANTS, HAH? YOU le#3** FISHBRAIN! TRYIN' TO UPSET MY MENTAL EEKY-LIBRIUM?
HAW-HAW! LOOKUT WAXY BOUNCE!
I'LL BOUNCE YOU, YUH HALF-WITTED HYENA! LESSEE YOU LAUGH AT THIS!
OWOOF!
GETCHER BIG PAWS OFF ME BRUDDER, YOU APE, OR YOU'LL WISH A ELEPHANT EIGHTEEN FEET TALL HAD ET YOU!
GHEEE!

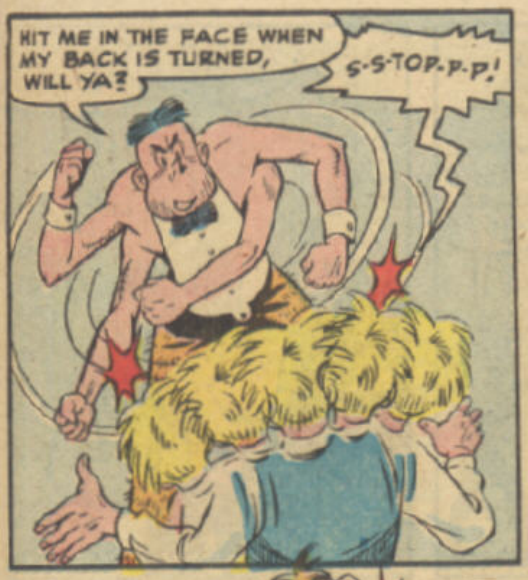

YOU LEAVE MY PAL WAXY BE, YOU #@%¢?&!!
CUDDIDOUT! CUDDIDOUT! CUDDIDOUT!

AHEM! THIS LOOKS LIKE GRAND FUN, KIDDIES! SHALL WE PLAY, TOO?
CARNIE, I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER SAY THAT!

I SAID STOPPIT! YOU'RE INNERUPTING MY COGITATIONS!
EXCUSE ME, LITTLE CHUM!

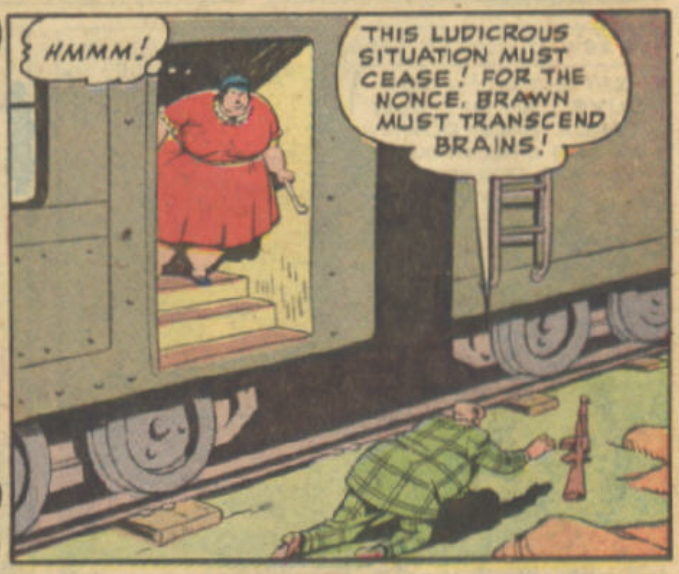
HAVE YOU FIGURED OUT YET HOW TO GET OUR TRAIN OUT AND THE GOLD TRAIN IN?
ULP! ER··· NOT YET, BUT BRAINY BATES WILL FIND THE ANSWER!


THEN YOU'VE NO BUSINESS HERE! GO BACK AND RESUME YOUR THINKING!
AIEEE! THIS IS INTOLERABLE!

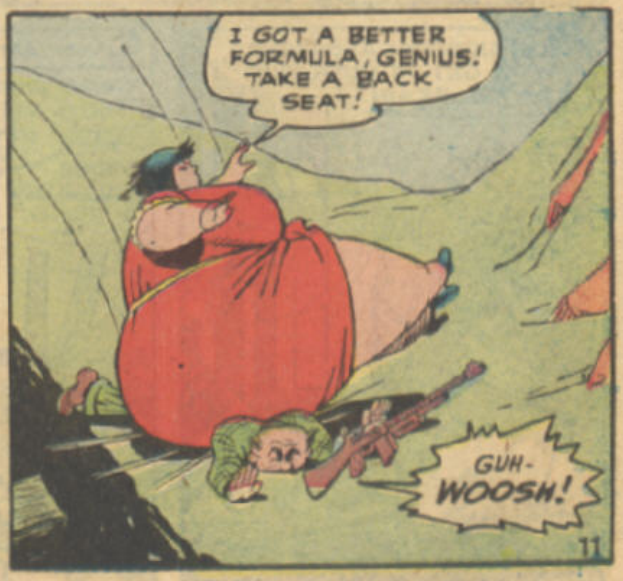

HIT ME IN THE FACE WHEN MY BACK IS TURNED, WILL YA?
S-S-TOP-P-P!

COME DOWN HERE AND FIGHT LIKE A MAN, YOU WORM!
YIIII!

THANK YOU!

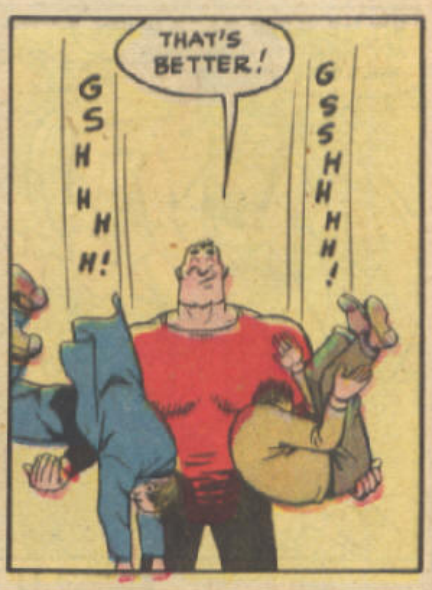

HMMM!
THIS LUDICROUS SITUATION MUST CEASE! FOR THE NONCE, BRAWN MUST TRANSCEND BRAINS!

MY SUPERIOR BRAIN TELLS ME THAT TO KILL THE LEADER WILL DEMORALIZE THE OTHERS!


I GOT A BETTER FORMULA, GENIUS! TAKE A BACK SEAT!
GUH-WOOSH!

HEY, YOU! COME BACK HERE!
NOT ME! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

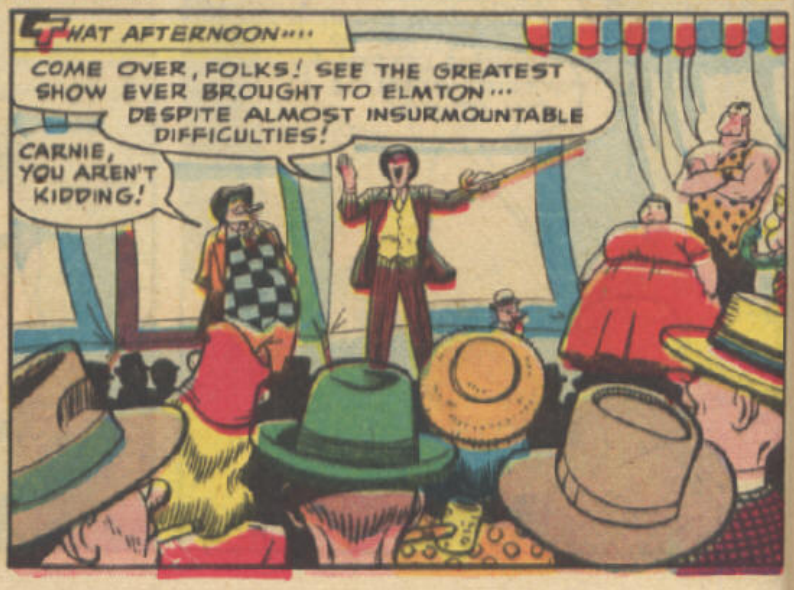
YOU HEARD ME!


THAT'S BETTER!
GSHHH!
GSSHHH!

A few minutes later....
THAT'S THAT! IF YOU GUYS CAN GET THAT TRACK BACK DOWN, WE CAN STILL MAKE ELMTON FOR THE SHOW!
WE'LL GET IT, CARNIE! LEAVE RAILROADING TO US!

AWRRK! BOYS, I JUST GOT IT! MY BRAINS JUST FIGURED OUT HOW TO GET THAT CIRCUS TRAIN OUT AND THE GOLD TRAIN IN!
YOU DID?

WELL, SIDDOWN AND FIGURE HOW TO GET US OUTA THIS RAP, PEA-BRAIN!


THAT AFTERNOON....
COME OVER, FOLKS! SEE THE GREATEST SHOW EVER BROUGHT TO ELMTON... DESPITE ALMOST INSURMOUNTABLE DIFFICULTIES!
CARNIE, YOU AREN'T KIDDING!

The BARKER
DOGGONED IF HE LOOKS LIKE A CANNIBAL.... HE'S EATING RAW VEGETABLES!
DON'T START FEELING SAFE! DONGO ALWAYS EATS HIS SALAD BEFORE THE MEAT COURSE!
By Klaus Nordling

IN ALL MY YEARS IN THE CIRCUS, I'VE NEVER SEEN A SLUMP LIKE THIS ONE!
WE'RE PLAYING TO AN EMPTY TENT!

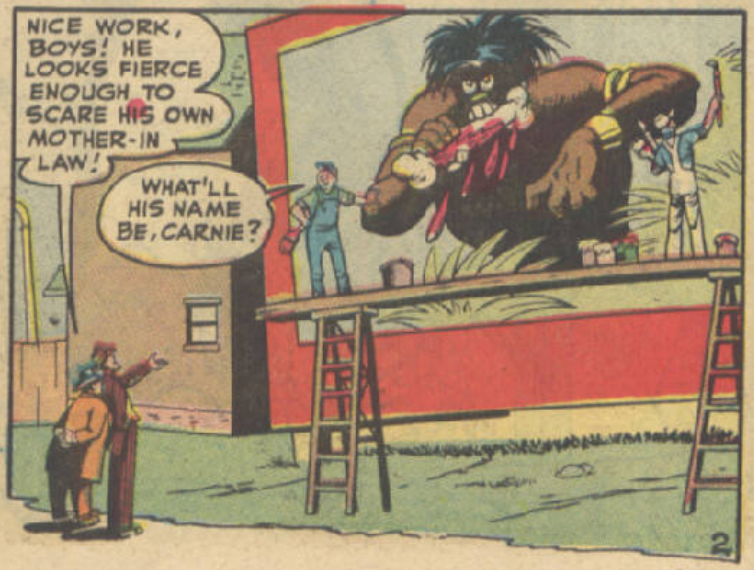
MAYBE WE'VE GOT A BUM SHOW!
MAYBE IT'S THE BEGINNING OF A DEPRESSION!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, CARNIE?
I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY'RE STAYING AWAY, COLONEL!

BUT THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A LITTLE HIGH PRESSURE PUBLICITY TO BRING 'EM BACK, AND I THINK I'VE GOT A TERRIFIC IDEA!

SAVE THE SUSPENSE! LET'S HAVE IT!
WE'LL HAVE A WILD CANNIBAL BREAK OUT OF HIS CAGE AND RUN AMOK THROUGH THE TOWN!

FINE! FINE! EXCEPT THAT WE HAVEN'T GOT A WILD CANNIBAL!
MAYBE NOT ... BUT WE WILL HAVE! FIRST LET'S GET UP SOME BILLBOARD POSTERS!


NICE WORK, BOYS! HE LOOKS FIERCE ENOUGH TO SCARE HIS OWN MOTHER-IN LAW!
WHAT'LL HIS NAME BE, CARNIE?

DONGO, THE MAN-EATING TERROR OF THE JUNGLE!
CHECK!

BUNK! THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THINGS AS CANNIBALS ANYMORE!
THEY DON'T GET MY DOUGH TO LOOK AT A FAKE!
Meet DONGO THE MAN-EATING TERROR OF THE JUNGLE!

WE'RE MAKING A TERRIFIC IMPRESSION!
DON'T WORRY, COLONEL! I'LL GET A RISE OUT OF THOSE RUBES!

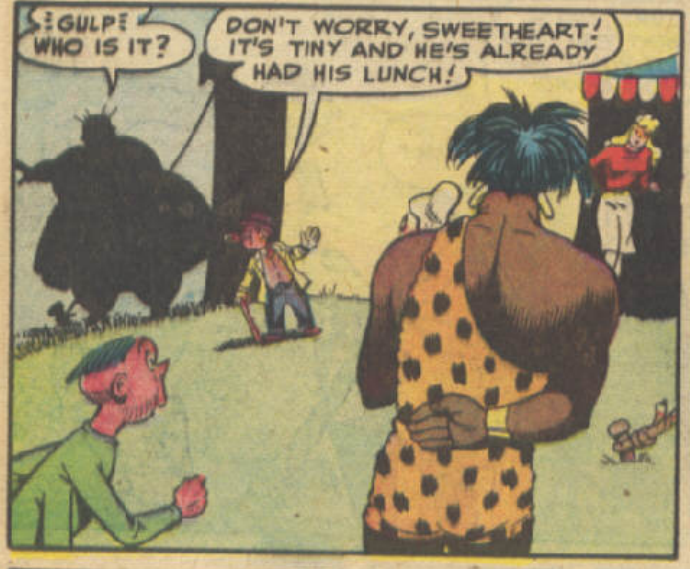
SURE! THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID, BUT WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO USE FOR A CANNIBAL?
HIM!

BUT, CARNIE, I'VE HAD NO EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SORT OF THING!
JUST DON'T TELL THE RUBES THAT, TINY, AND THEY'LL NEVER KNOW!

THERE! I'M GETTING SCARED MYSELF! MIDGE, GET A BIG BEEF BONE FROM THE MENAGERIE!

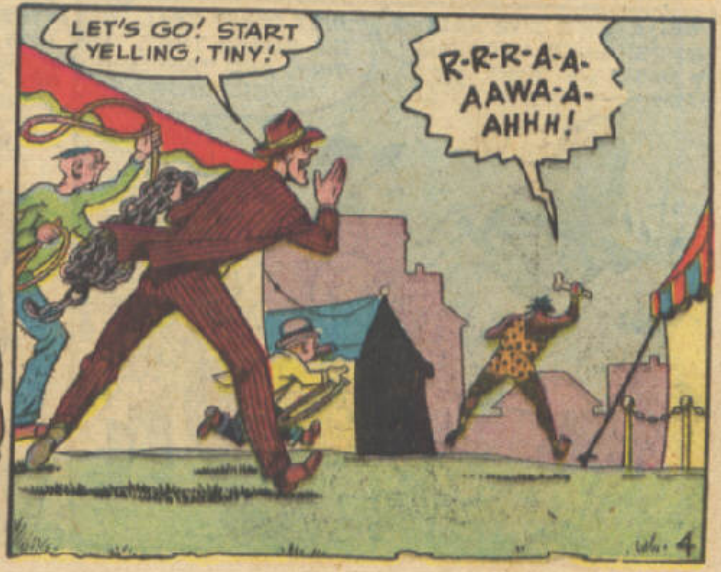
YOUR LUNCH, DONGO--A BANKER'S LEG!
NOW SHOW YOUR TEETH, TINY, AND DON'T FORGET TO DROOL AND GIVE OUT WITH THE PIERCING SCREAMS!

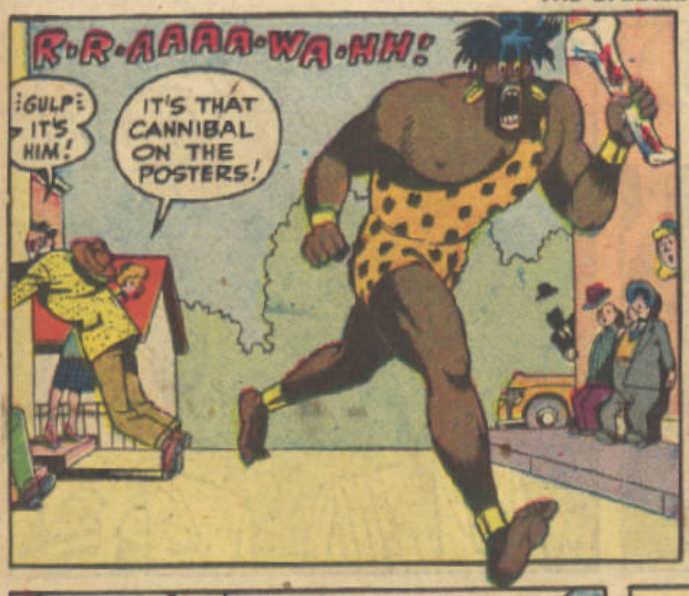
GET THE GANG, COLONEL! WE'RE READY!


:GULP: WHO IS IT?
DON'T WORRY, SWEETHEART! IT'S TINY AND HE'S ALREADY HAD HIS LUNCH!

WHEW! I WAS BEGINNING TO HOPE HE ONLY LIKED LEA-MEA!
NOW GET IT STRAIGHT, GANG! WE'LL CARRY ROPES AND CHAINS AND WE'LL LOOK WORRIED STIFF AS WE CHASE DONGO, THE CANNIBAL, THROUGH TOWN! HE'S BROKEN LOOSE FROM HIS CAGE AND HE'S A MENACE TO LIFE AND LIMB... SO LOOK SERIOUS!

START GNAWING THAT BONE, TINY, AND LOOK MAD! LET'S GO!
SHUCKS! I JUST FEEL SILLY!

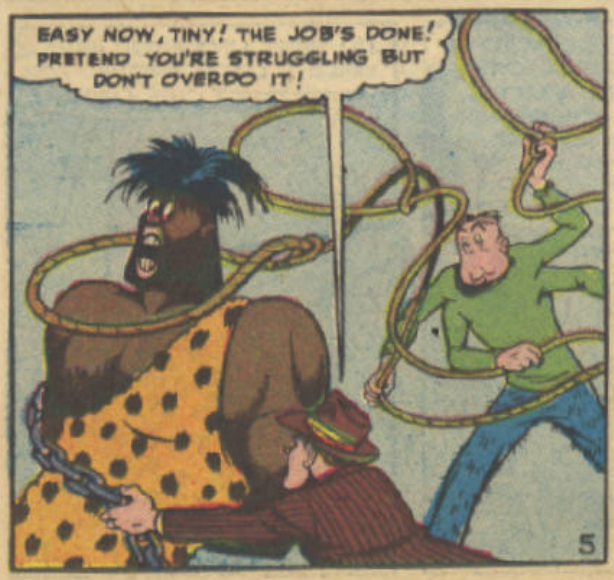

LET'S GO! START YELLING, TINY!
R-R-R-A-A-AAWA-A-AHHH!


R-R-AAAA-WA-HH!
GULP! IT'S HIM!
IT'S THAT CANNIBAL ON THE POSTERS!

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! DONGO, THE CANNIBAL, IS LOOSE!
EEEK!

OWK! HE'S EATING A HUMAN BONE!
LOOK OUT! GET OUT OF HIS WAY! HE'S A MAN-EATER!

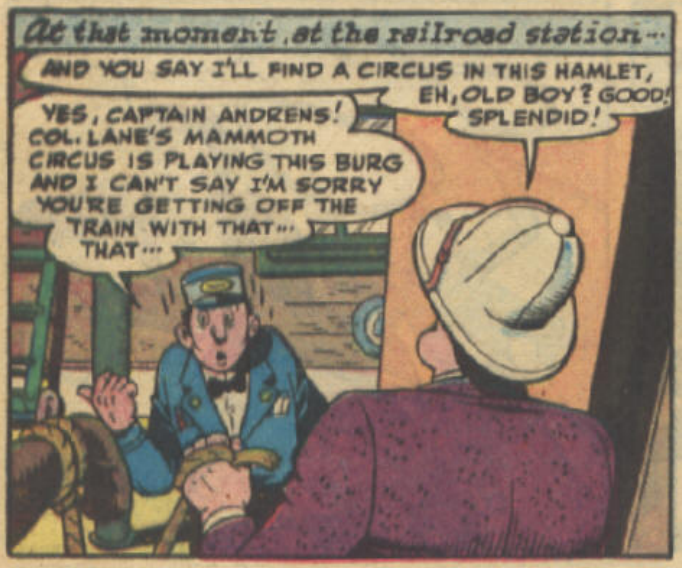
WE'RE GAINING ON HIM!


EASY NOW, TINY! THE JOB'S DONE! PRETEND YOU'RE STRUGGLING BUT DON'T OVERDO IT!

IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW, FOLKS! WE'VE GOT HIM TIED UP! WE'LL HAVE HIM BACK IN HIS CAGE AT THE CIRCUS IN NO TIME!
SURE WAS A CLOSE CALL, WASN'T IT?

GOSH! HE'S MEAN LOOKIN'! I'D HATE TO GET INTO HIS HANDS!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE A REAL CANNIBAL BUT HE'S IT, ALL RIGHT!

SAY, THAT CIRCUS MUST BE A PRETTY GOOD ONE, AFTER ALL! GUESS I'LL GO OUT AND TAKE A LOOK!
ME, TOO! I DON'T MIND WATCHING A CANNIBAL IN A CAGE!


At that moment, at the railroad station...
AND YOU SAY I'LL FIND A CIRCUS IN THIS HAMLET, EH, OLD BOY? GOOD! SPLENDID!
YES, CAPTAIN ANDRENS! COL. LANE'S MAMMOTH CIRCUS IS PLAYING THIS BURG AND I CAN'T SAY I'M SORRY YOU'RE GETTING OFF THE TRAIN WITH THAT... THAT...

HA-HA! YOU'VE NOTHING TO FEAR! POOBAH ISN'T A BIT HUNGRY, ARE YOU, POOBAH?
RAA-AWAH!

I HOPE I CAN SELL YOU TO THIS CIRCUS, POOBAH! REALLY, WHEN YOU THINK OF ALL THE EXPENSE AND TROUBLE I WENT TO GETTING YOU OFF THAT OLD ISLAND, I SHOULD BE RECOMPENSED!

HMM! DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANYBODY AROUND! OF COURSE, YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO FIERCE-LOOKING AND DANGEROUS FOR MOST CIRCUS OWNERS, BUT MAYBE THIS ONE'LL GO FOR YOU! THAT IS, IF I CAN FIND HIM!

I'LL JUST LEAVE YOU HERE WHILE I LOOK AROUND FOR THE OWNER!
R-R-AAA-WAA-A-AH-H!

THE FELLOW SHOULD BE SOMEWHERE ON THE LOT!

BETTER SNEAK IN THROUGH THE REAR, TINY, AND GO TO YOUR DRESSING ROOM! OTHERWISE WE'D HAVE TO KEEP YOU CHAINED UP SO IT'D LOOK ON THE LEVEL TO ANYBODY WHO MIGHT COME AROUND!
I NEED A REST ANYWAY!

I THINK WE CAN GET READY FOR A CROWD, COLONEL!
YOU DID IT, ALL RIGHT, CARNIE! THE STUNT WAS SENSATIONAL!

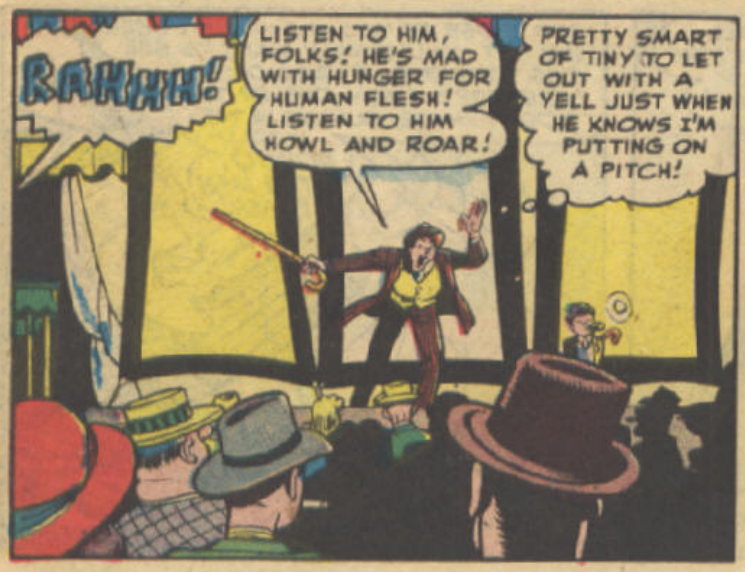
AND THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVEN'T SEEN HIM YET WILL SURELY WANT TO SEE THIS TERRIBLE, FEROCIOUS CREATURE FROM ONE OF THE MOST REMOTE ISLANDS IN THE WORLD...
DONGO, THE MAN EATER!

WHY, TINY, HOW COME YOU'RE STILL TIED UP? I THOUGHT THEY WERE GOING TO PUT YOU ON WITH THE BEST ACTS! YOU HAVE ALMOST TWO HOURS TO WAIT!
RR-A-AH!

RRR-AAHH!
I'LL UNTIE YOU! ALL RIGHT, YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT ON THE ACT FOR ME! I KNOW YOU!

R-R-A-A-HHH!
TINY, WHAT ON EARTH'S COME OVER YOU?

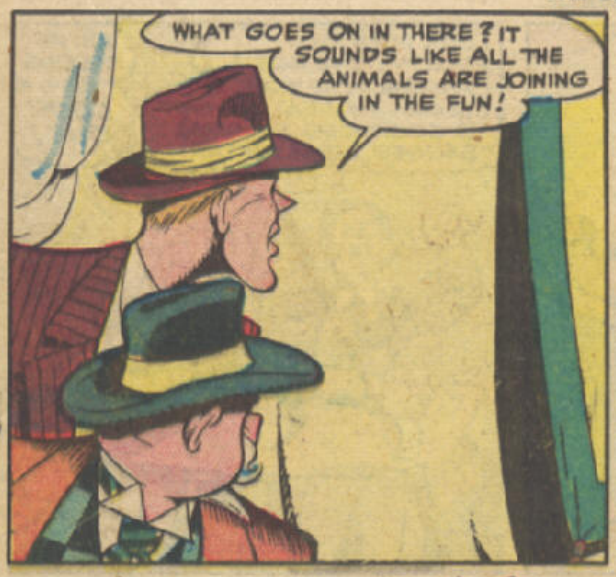
R-R-AHH!
TINY, CUT IT OUT!


RAHHH!
LISTEN TO HIM, FOLKS! HE'S MAD WITH HUNGER FOR HUMAN FLESH! LISTEN TO HIM HOWL AND ROAR!
PRETTY SMART OF TINY TO LET OUT WITH A YELL JUST WHEN HE KNOWS I'M PUTTING ON A PITCH!

R-RAAH!
HE'S WOWING THEM!

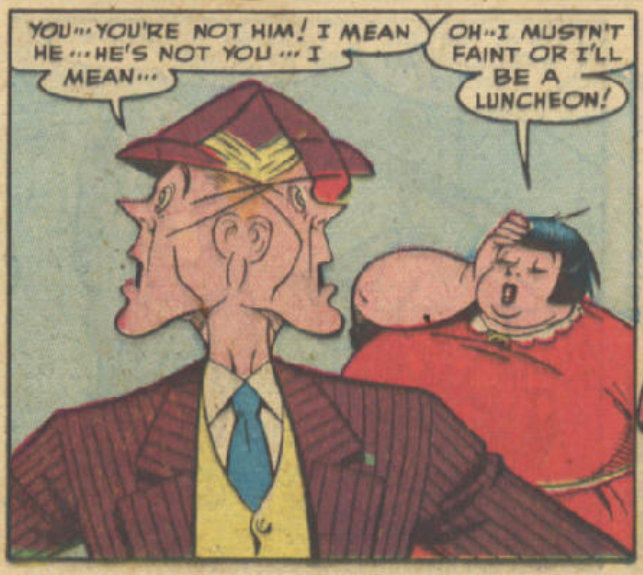
HELP!
Tiger

RRROWWW!
RRAAHHH!
GRRR!


WHAT GOES ON IN THERE? IT SOUNDS LIKE ALL THE ANIMALS ARE JOINING IN THE FUN!

CARNIE! COLONEL! HELP! TINY'S GONE NUTS! CALL HIM OFF!

TINY... WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
R-RAHHH!
YOU CALLING ME, CARNIE? WHAT'S THE MATTER?


YOU... YOU'RE NOT HIM! I MEAN HE... HE'S NOT YOU... I MEAN...
OH.. I MUSTN'T FAINT OR I'LL BE A LUNCHEON!

MAYBE HE'S A REAL CANNIBAL! HOW DID HE GET IN HERE?
NEVER MIND THAT! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

THERE HE IS, MISTER! THAT'S COLONEL LANE!
AH, THANKS, OLD BOY! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR THE CHAP!

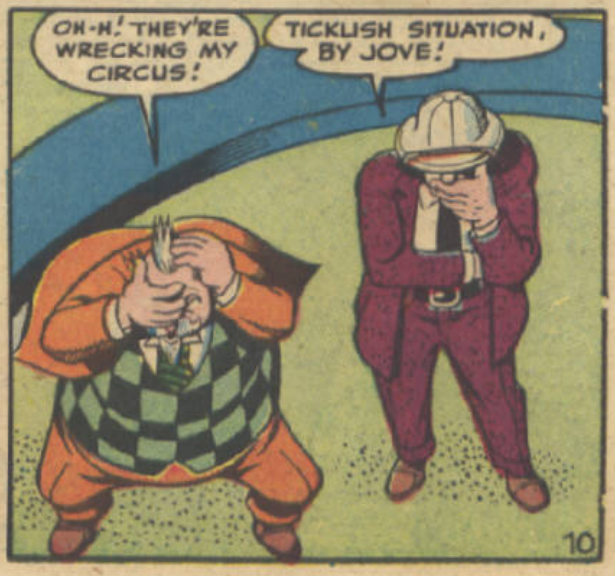
LOOK HERE, OLD FELLOW! I'VE GOT A CANNIBAL FOR YOUR CIRCUS ... A REAL, HONEST TO GOODNESS CANNIBAL! BAGGED THE BLIGHTER MYSELF!
YOU'RE TELLING ME ... LOOK OUT!

DEUCED AWKWARD! POOR OLD POOBAH OBVIOUSLY COULDN'T RESIST THE FAT LADY! BUT HOW DID HE BREAK LOOSE?

I TURNED HIM LOOSE! I THOUGHT HE WAS TINY!
TINY? WHAT ROT! ANYBODY CAN SEE THE BEGGAR'S ENORMOUS!

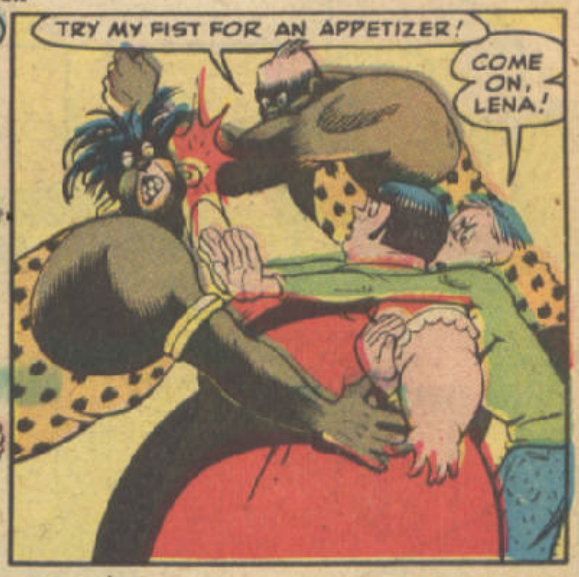
DO SOMETHING! YOU GOT HIM IN HERE!
CAN'T THINK OF A THING! I'VE NEVER DEALT WITH POOBAH UNDER SUCH UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES!

RUN! THEY CAN'T KEEP THAT MAN-EATER TIED UP!
HELP!
EEEK!


OH-H! THEY'RE WRECKING MY CIRCUS!
TICKLISH SITUATION, BY JOVE!

HELP! I'M A GONER!

IT'S NOW OR NEVER!


TRY MY FIST FOR AN APPETIZER!
COME ON, LENA!

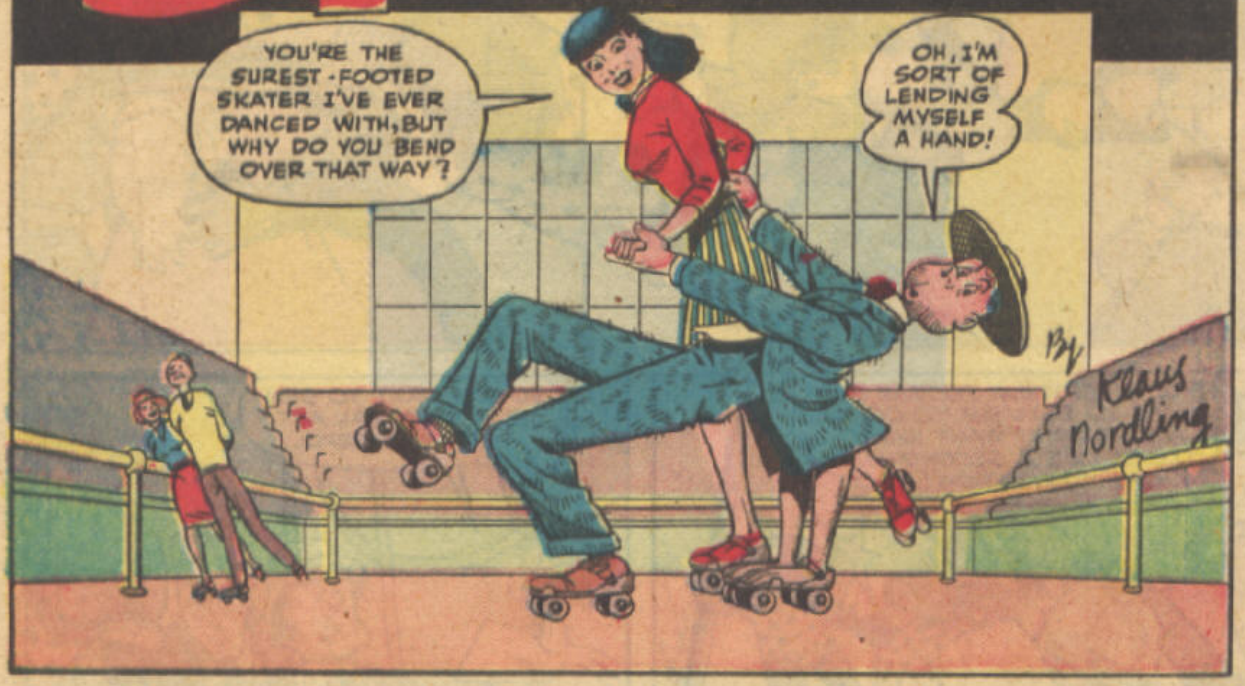
HERE! HERE! TREAT POOBAH GENTLY! I WANT TO SELL HIM TO COLONEL LANE! I DON'T WANT HIM TO LOOK LIKE A SECOND-HAND CANNIBAL, Y'KNOW!

SO YOU WANT TO SELL ME A CANNIBAL ACT! FINE! WONDERFUL!

ONLY MY TENT'S WRECKED AND THE CUSTOMERS ARE SCARED AWAY FOR GOOD... ALL BECAUSE OF THIS CANNIBAL! GET HIM OUT OF HERE... AND YOU GO, TOO!
IN A HURRY!
BUT FAST!

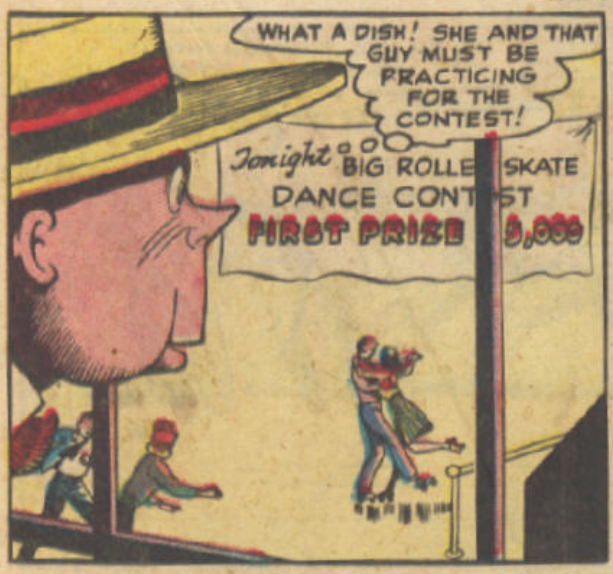
AS FOR YOU, CALAHAN...
BUT, COLONEL, EVERYTHING WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL RIGHT IF THE STUNT HADN'T BECOME SO LEGITIMATE!

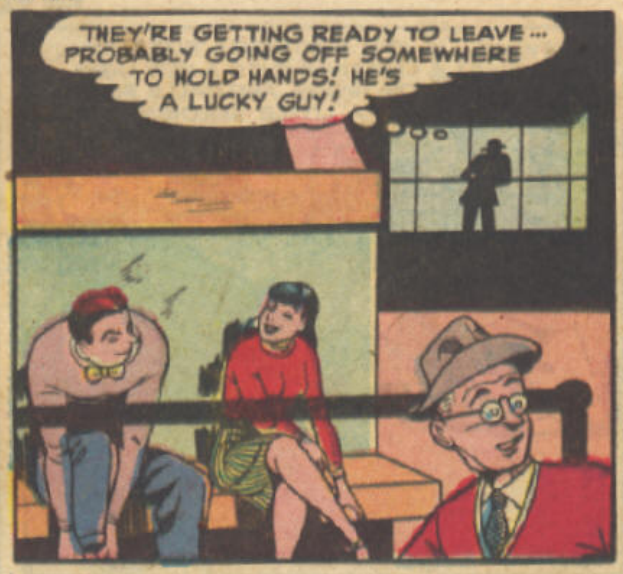
Spudo


YOU'RE THE SUREST-FOOTED SKATER I'VE EVER DANCED WITH, BUT WHY DO YOU BEND OVER THAT WAY?
OH, I'M SORT OF LENDING MYSELF A HAND!
Klaus Nordling

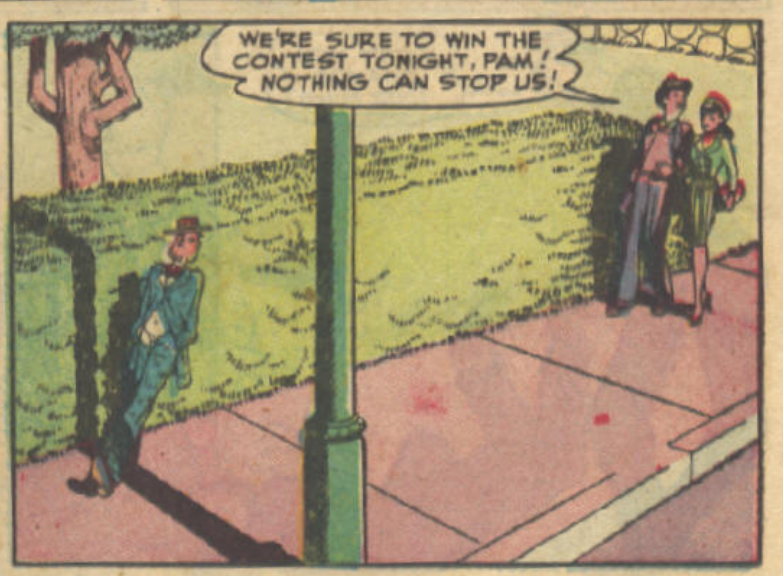
I WONDER WHAT THIS TOWN HAS TO OFFER A CIRCUS ARTIST IN THE WAY OF RELAXATION!

A ROLLER SKATING RINK! OH, WELL, I'M NOT MUCH OF A SKATER BUT I CAN LOOK ON!
FLOPPO RO
RINK

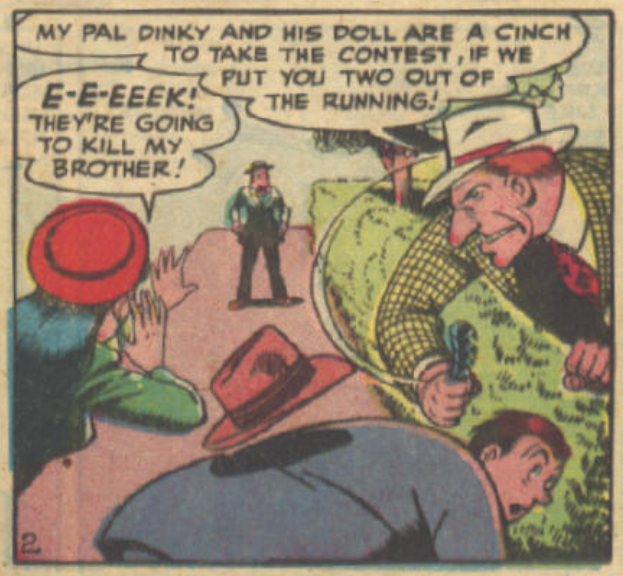

WHAT A DISH! SHE AND THAT GUY MUST BE PRACTICING FOR THE CONTEST!
Tonight BIG ROLLE SKATE
DANCE CONT ST
FIRST PRIZE 3,000


THEY'RE GETTING READY TO LEAVE... PROBABLY GOING OFF SOMEWHERE TO HOLD HANDS! HE'S A LUCKY GUY!

ALL OF WHICH GETS ME NO PLACE!


WE'RE SURE TO WIN THE CONTEST TONIGHT, PAM! NOTHING CAN STOP US!

DON'T BE SO SURE, SUCKER! WE CAN STOP YOU!
WH... WHAT?


MY PAL DINKY AND HIS DOLL ARE A CINCH TO TAKE THE CONTEST, IF WE PUT YOU TWO OUT OF THE RUNNING!
E-E-EEEK! THEY'RE GOING TO KILL MY BROTHER!
2

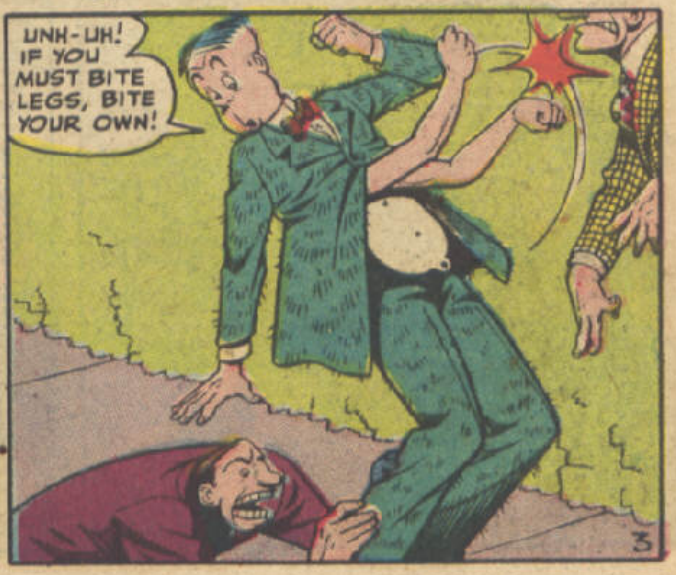
OWW-W! MY ANKLE!
HER BROTHER! THAT CERTAINLY PUTS A NEW LIGHT ON THINGS AND CALLS FOR A LITTLE HEROISM!

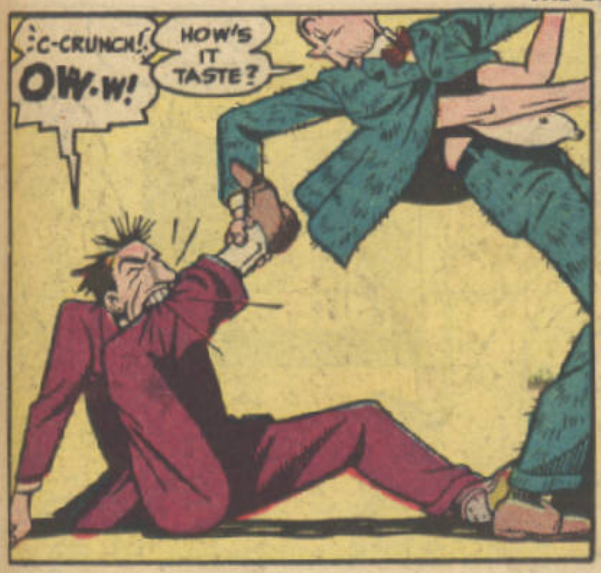
OH, I'M NOT THROUGH WITH IT YET! IT'S GONNA HURT MUCH WORSE!

WON'T YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND?

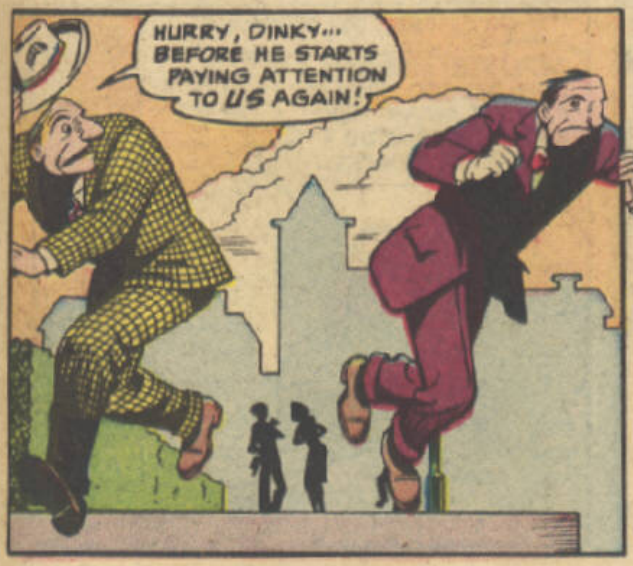
YOU SHOULDN'T BUTT INTO PRIVATE FIGHTS!

THEY'RE THE ONLY KIND I LIKE!
WHU... WHU... WHU... WHUFF!


UNH-UH! IF YOU MUST BITE LEGS, BITE YOUR OWN!


C-CRUNCH!
OW-W!
HOW'S IT TASTE?

OH, YOU'RE WONDERFUL! YOU WERE SO QUICK WITH YOUR HANDS ... YOU SEEMED TO HAVE TWICE AS MANY AS MOST PEOPLE!
IT'S OFTEN APPEARED THAT WAY TO ME, TOO!


HURRY, DINKY... BEFORE HE STARTS PAYING ATTENTION TO US AGAIN!

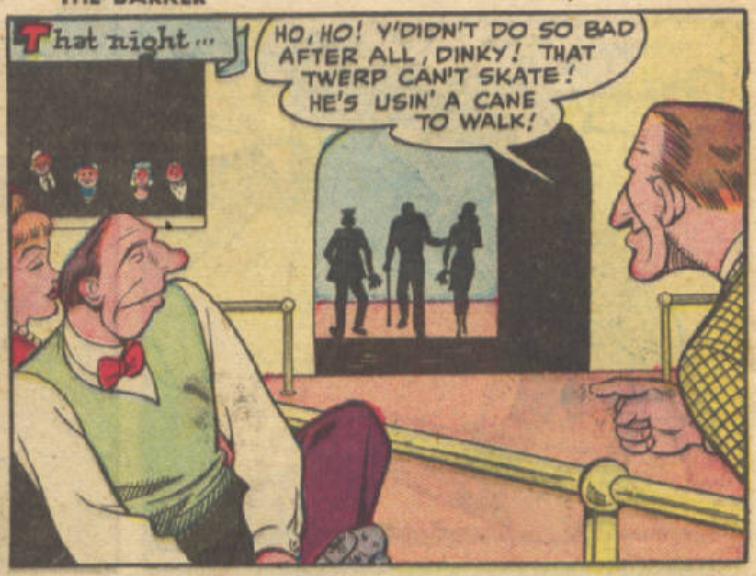
OH, DON, DID THEY HURT YOUR ANKLE BADLY?
I'M AFRAID SO, PAM! AND IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THIS KIND CHAP, I'M AFRAID THEY'D HAVE BROKEN IT!

GOODNESS! YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SKATE WITH ME TONIGHT!
THIS IS A TOUGH BREAK, PAM! IF YOU COULD ONLY FIND ANOTHER PARTNER, YOU MIGHT STILL BE ABLE TO WIN THE PRIZE!

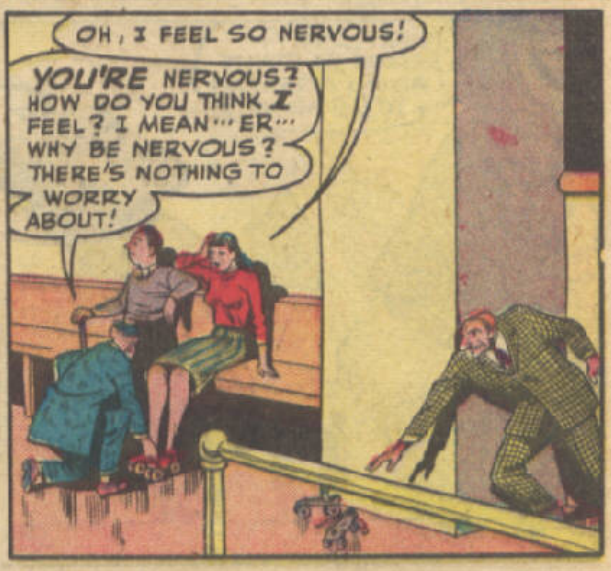
BUT, DON, NOBODY CAN DANCE WITH ME THE WAY YOU CAN!
OH, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT!

YOU MEAN YOU ...? GOLLY! COULD YOU? I MEAN WOULD YOU? IF YOU CAN USE YOUR FEET AS WELL AS YOUR HANDS, WE MIGHT WIN TOGETHER!
PAM MEANS ON SKATES, OF COURSE!

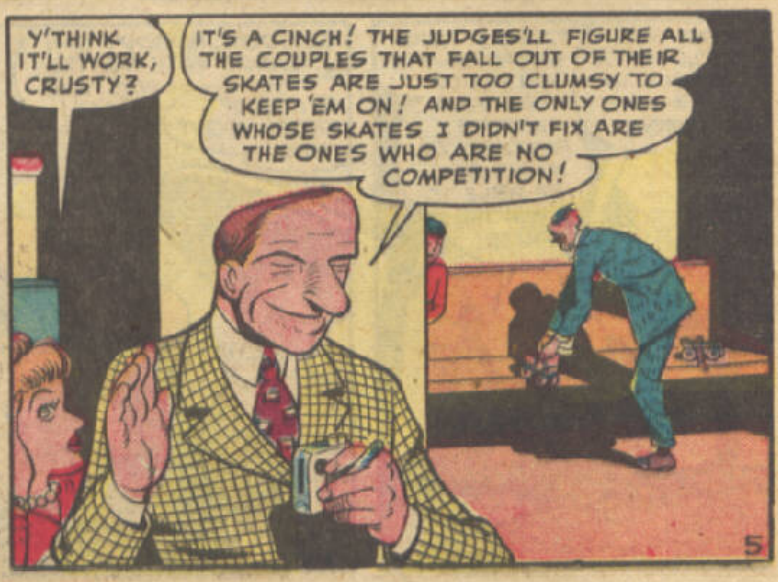
SKATES? GULP! ER... I HADN'T THOUGHT OF THAT! ER... I MEAN... I DON'T SEE WHY NOT... THAT IS...
THAT'S MARVELLOUS! WE'LL MEET YOU HERE TONIGHT!


That night...
HO, HO! Y'DIDN'T DO SO BAD AFTER ALL, DINKY! THAT TWERP CAN'T SKATE! HE'S USIN' A CANE TO WALK!

WAIT! Y'BETTER SLIP OVER THERE, CRUSTY, AND FIND OUT WHAT GOES! MAYBE THE OTHER GUY'S GONNA SKATE WITH THE BABE!
I'D BETTER NOT TAKE ANY CHANCES! I'LL RUIN THE CLAMPS AND THE STRAPS ON HIS SKATES JUST LIKE I DID THE OTHERS!

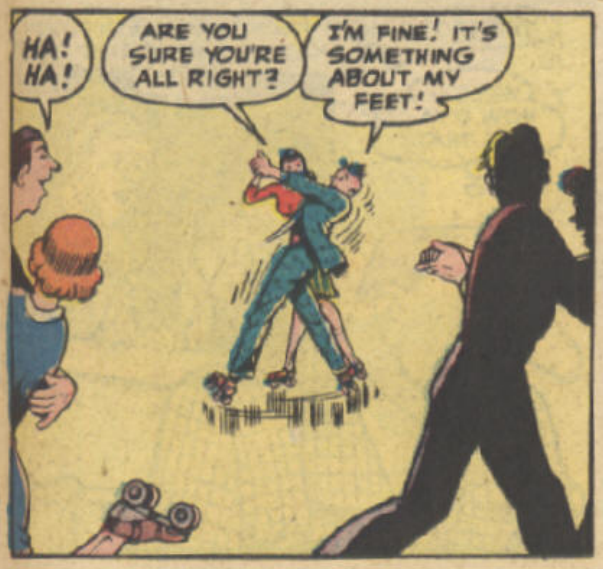

OH, I FEEL SO NERVOUS!
YOU'RE NERVOUS? HOW DO YOU THINK I FEEL? I MEAN... ER... WHY BE NERVOUS? THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

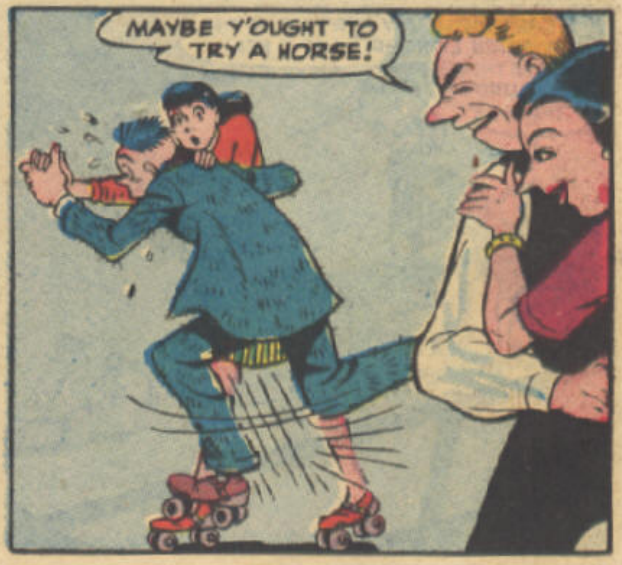
THERE... THE STRAPS'LL BREAK AFTER HE'S BEEN SKATING A FEW MINUTES! DINKY AND HIS DOLL'LL WIN IN A WALK!

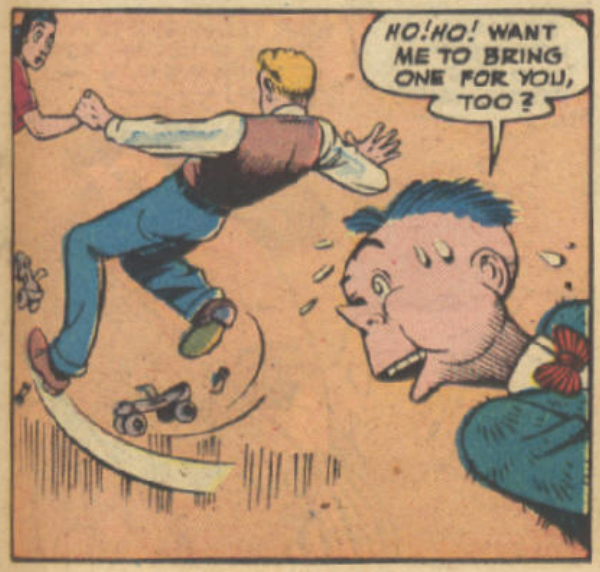

Y'THINK IT'LL WORK, CRUSTY?
IT'S A CINCH! THE JUDGES'LL FIGURE ALL THE COUPLES THAT FALL OUT OF THEIR SKATES ARE JUST TOO CLUMSY TO KEEP 'EM ON! AND THE ONLY ONES WHOSE SKATES I DIDN'T FIX ARE THE ONES WHO ARE NO COMPETITION!

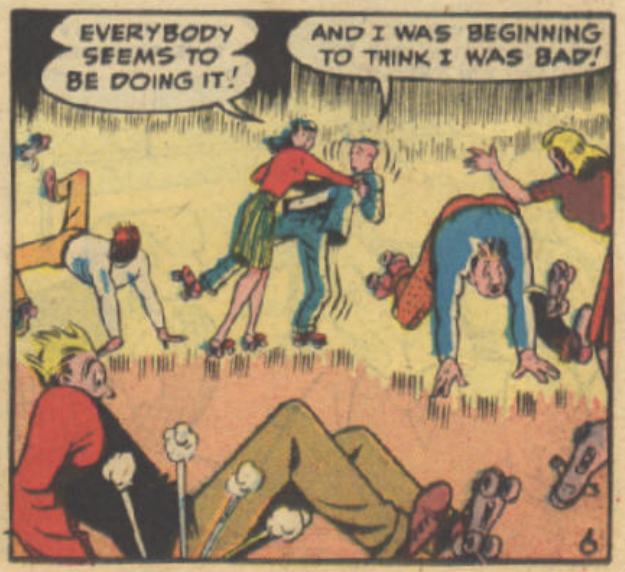
ALL SET FOR THE BIG CONTEST!

HERE WE GO!
GOOD LUCK!
WE'LL NEED IT··· I MEAN SURE···· THANKS!

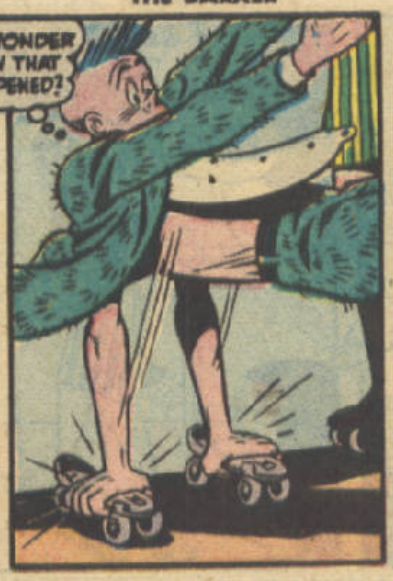

HA! HA!
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE! IT'S SOMETHING ABOUT MY FEET!

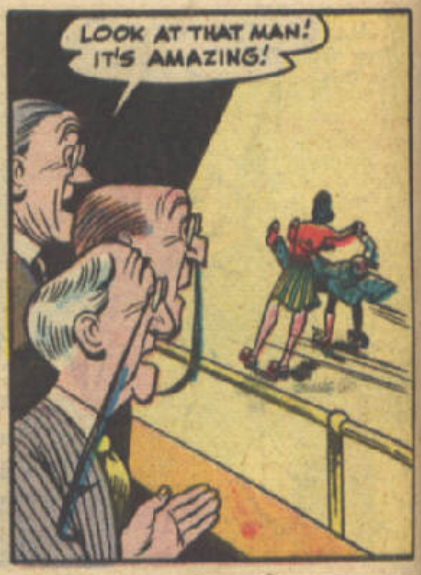

MAYBE Y'OUGHT TO TRY A HORSE!

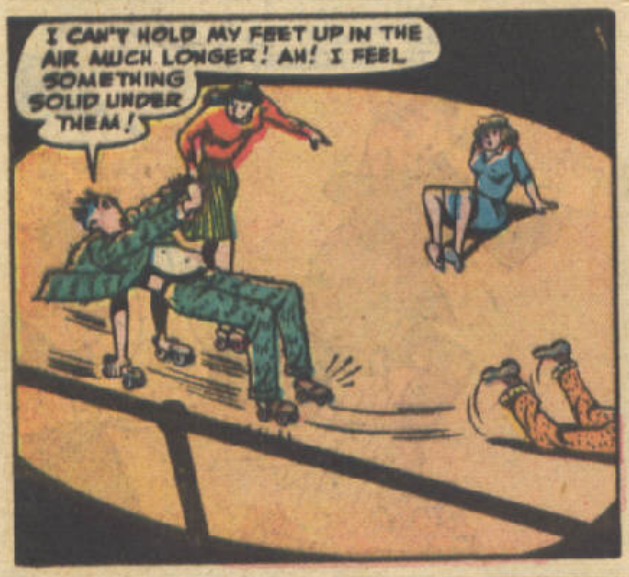

HO! HO! WANT ME TO BRING ONE FOR YOU, TOO?


EVERYBODY SEEMS TO BE DOING IT!
AND I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK I WAS BAD!

WELL, AIN'T YOU?
GRAWK!

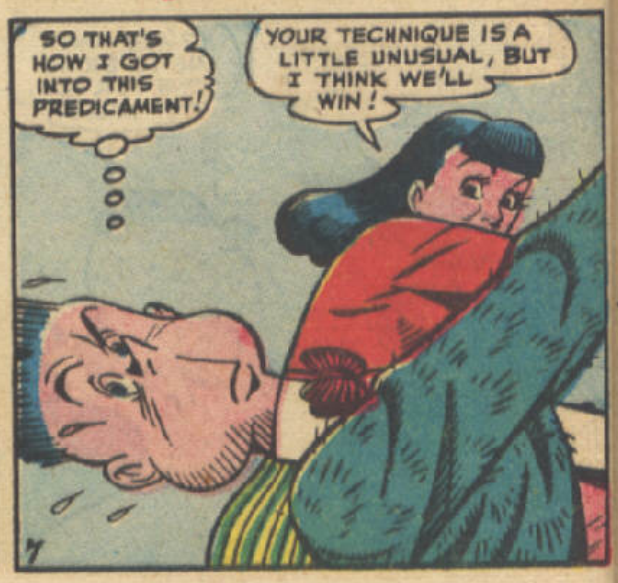

I WONDER HOW THAT HAPPENED?

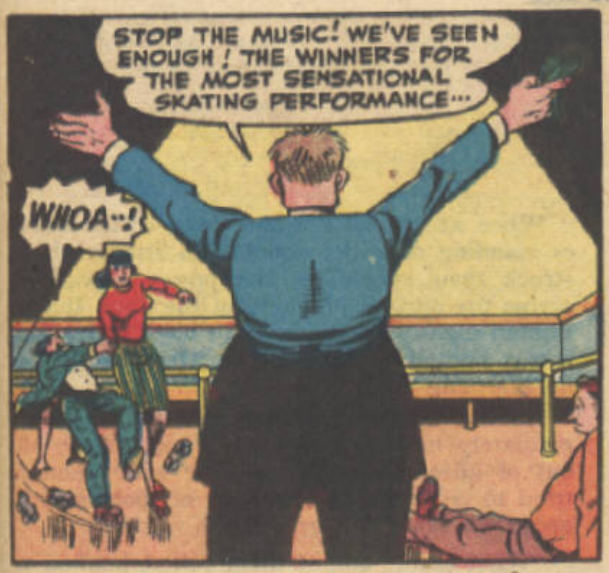

LOOK AT THAT MAN! IT'S AMAZING!


I CAN'T HOLD MY FEET UP IN THE AIR MUCH LONGER! AH! I FEEL SOMETHING SOLID UNDER THEM!

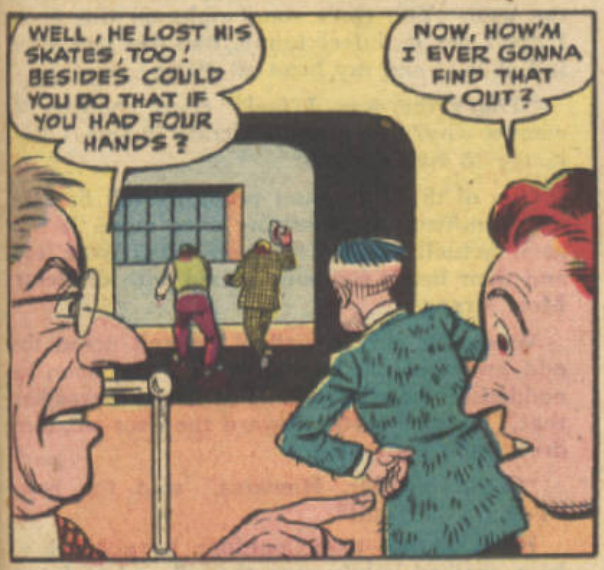
THIS IS THE MOST PHENOMENAL EXHIBITION OF SKATING I HAVE EVER SEEN!
WELL... HOW D'YA LIKE THAT?

WHAT DO WE DO NOW? CUTTIN' THE STRAPS ON THE SKATES WASN'T ENOUGH!
I GOTTA HAVE TIME TO THINK!

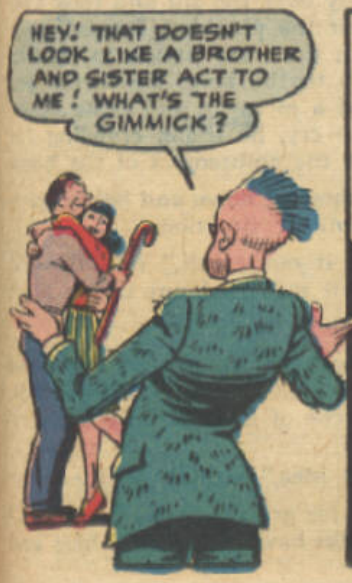

SO THAT'S HOW I GOT INTO THIS PREDICAMENT!
YOUR TECHNIQUE IS A LITTLE UNUSUAL, BUT I THINK WE'LL WIN!


STOP THE MUSIC! WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH! THE WINNERS FOR THE MOST SENSATIONAL SKATING PERFORMANCE...
WHOA..!

...THIS WONDERFUL COUPLE! THE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS-OOOPS! IS YOURS!
JUST A MINUTE! WE LOST OUR SKATES! BESIDES, THIS MAN HAS FOUR HANDS!


WELL, HE LOST HIS SKATES, TOO! BESIDES COULD YOU DO THAT IF YOU HAD FOUR HANDS?
NOW, HOW'M I EVER GONNA FIND THAT OUT?

TAKE YOUR GRIEVANCES OUT ON THESE TWO MUGGS, FOLKS! THEY FIXED YOUR SKATES SO THEY'D FALL OFF! I'VE GOT TO TALK TO MY DANCING PARTNER!


HEY! THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A BROTHER AND SISTER ACT TO ME! WHAT'S THE GIMMICK?

OH, I DIDN'T MEAN HE WAS MY REAL BROTHER! YOU SEE, WE BELONG TO A SKATING SOCIETY WHERE ALL THE MEMBERS ARE REFERRED TO AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS!
WE CAN NEVER THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR US! WE'RE GOING TO USE THE PRIZE MONEY TO GET MARRIED!

PHOOEY! WHY DON'T I TAKE THE TROUBLE TO INQUIRE INTO THE DETAILS OF SUCH MATTERS?

CRAZY CABINS

IT WAS a thirty mile drive out to the ancient abandoned camp, but the six Scouts enjoyed every mile of it. The driver of the rickety truck was an old-timer of the West, who wore a ten-gallon hat and five-inch mustachios. It was easy to imagine him packing two six-guns and firing at a band of outlaws.

The six youths were on a tour of several historic spots in the western United States, and their first stop out of Denver was the old camp where, legend had it, strange things went on.

"Is it haunted?" Sammy asked the old driver.

"Gee," said another gleefully, "I hope it is. I like ghost houses!"

The driver wheeled the truck expertly around a huge boulder lying almost in the middle of the road and spat over the side. "Haunted?" he said. "Wal, ye might call it thet. Funny things happen thereabouts, they say."

"Swell," cried the youngest member of the party. "I've never been to a haunted house—not a really haunted one. Oh, boy! This is my meat!"

The driver chuckled. It was wonderful to be young. Wonderful to have ideas. Now about this Burch Camp where they were headed. He had heard some strange tales about it. Wonder if it could be haunted. Pshaw! He spat again and gripped the wheel.

They would be to their destination in a few minutes. They intended to spend the night; then he would drive them on another sixty miles where they would take the bus for their next stop.

When they reached Burch Camp, everything looked just like it should. Several ramshackle cabins stood about, leaning and plainly deserted for many years. This had once been a mining camp, but the streak had petered out and the men had moved on to better pickings.

Now the buildings stood, mute reminders of another, more glorious day. Those old cabins filled with ghosts? Huh!

The boys leaped out of the truck and went scampering off in several directions. Their cries of delight came back as they plunged into the cabins, finding things to their liking.

Then suddenly one of the boys yelped with fear. His cry came from one of the more distant cabins. Several of the other boys hurried that way. Then they, too, began calling to the rest.

When at last all the kids were either inside or standing near the doorway, a strange thing struck their eyes. The first boy was walking across the ancient planking in the floor. It was slanted slightly. But so was this boy's body, only it was slanted in the other direction, slanted at an alarming angle.

Another boy tried walking over the floor. Immediately his body took on a rigid slant, all out of kilter with gravity. One after another tried to cross the floor and all of them experienced the same strange thing.

"What is it?" one of them yelled, holding to the wall. "You can't stand right on this floor. I don't get it. I feel funny, like my feet were full of lead and my head all dizzy."

"That's the way I feel," cried another. "I wonder why? The gravity is crazy in here. Look-it, try to turn around."

One of them did, and promptly fell flat. He had a difficult time arising once more. It was as if actually their feet were filled with lead and their heads suddenly seized with dizziness. Most strange.

When the driver walked up and noted the odd antics of the youngsters on the floor, he nodded his head sagely. "I've heerd it was like that." He took a step toward the door sill, then drew back his foot.

"Come on, Mr. Hawkins," said the boys. "You try her out!"

Hawkins, not to be outdone by a bunch of boys, walked boldly over the sill and took two tentative steps over the planking. Immediately he was seized with the crazy notion to lean in the opposite angle to the floor. He threw out his hands, teetered a moment, and came down in a heap. With a cry, he began crawling for the door, much to the amusement of the boys.

Outside again, they sat down and began speculating on the fantastic situation.

"I cain't figger it out at all," said the old driver. "I never felt so dern funny in me life."

"Nor I," said one of the Scouts.

"I think we ought to dig up the floor and have a look what's under there," said another. "It might be a cache of some strange mysterious ore."

"That's a good idea," replied another.

Hawkins shook his grizzled head. "I dunno," he said. "Other folks have dug around here and

they didn't find nothin'. Out back there is a heap of dirt, as ye can see. But dig ef ye wanta."

They rushed around the cabin and came upon a great pile of dirt, which had been dug from under the floor at some earlier time.

"Mebbe," said one of the lads, "whoever dug here found something he didn't want others to know about—like some precious mineral."

"I say let's dig some more!" cried one of the boys.

"I got a shovel in th' truck," said Hawkins. He started for it.

A cry startled them at this moment. They discovered that one of their number was missing. He cried out again, the sound coming from a nearby cabin. They all ran toward it.

When they reached the door of this shack, they found their buddy holding a long string with a weight on its end up to the ceiling.

"Look!" he cried when he saw the others. "I was measuring the distance between the roof and the floor on both sides—you can see one side's higher—when I noticed that the string was bowed in the middle just like a wind was blowing against it. But there isn't any wind!"

It was true. There was no wind. Yet the string had just such a bow as the boy described. It was there before their eyes.

"What causes it?" they cried.

"Now watch!" cried the youngster with the piece of string. He walked to the other end of the cabin and held up the string. The bow was again in it, only this time it was the other way around!

"Good gosh!" yelped a youth. "This place is crazy!"

Hawkins was now watching this strange thing. He scratched his head and spat. Then he growled in his throat.

"Me, I'm fer gittin' outa here!" he said.

The boys laughed, but none too heartily.

"Things ain't right hereabouts," went on Hawkins. "Liable to be seein' things next!"

The boys looked at each other quickly, coloring a bit as the portent of the old man's words struck them. Was the place really haunted?

"Well, I say let's make the rounds of the cabins—all of 'em," said one of the braver souls.

"Yeah, let's!"

So they all went toward the next cabin. It was in the same shape of disrepair. Its floor was fairly level. And this time they found nothing wrong with gravity, or whatever it was that was awry.

The next cabin proved the same. Nothing the matter with at least two of them. There was one more. In it they all halted, listening. A dull roar came to their ears. It seemed to come from below, and the roar was enough to make the cabin shake a bit.

"Hey!" shouted one of the boys suddenly. He held out his hand. "Come here—feel!"

They rushed to him and stuck out their hands. Directly over a crack in the floor a terrific blast of air came upward. It was almost enough to lift their hands.

And the roaring. What made it?

Hawkins proved some help here.

"I think this here cabin might be built over Vanishin' River," he explained. "They's a river that goes into the ground and comes out again after a few miles hereabouts somewheres. Yeah, right about here she'd be."

"But that draft!" cried one of the lads.

"Crevasse mebbe," said the driver. "Most likely a cross buttress on the structure down below. Water striking agin' it makes a draft—" He paused and across his face a blank look came. He shook his head. "Naw, this cain't be it. Come on, fellers, I'm gettin' outa here afore I do see things!" He started on a run for the truck, the boys following.

And to this day these strange things happen at Burch Camp, all unexplained.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933 of THE BARKER, published quarterly at Buffalo, N. Y. for October 1, 1946.

State of Connecticut } ss.
County of Fairfield }

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Everett M. Arnold, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Publisher of THE BARKER and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc. of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Everett M. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.; Editor, George E. Brenner, 415 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y.; Managing Editor, None; Business Manager, Everett M. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.

2. That the owner is. (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.) Everett M. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.; Claire C. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.; Comic Magazines, Inc., 322 Main Street, Stamford, Conn.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest, direct or indirect, in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

EVERETT M. ARNOLD, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of September, 1946.

LOUIS J. KURIANSKY, Notary Public (Commission expires April 1, 1949.)

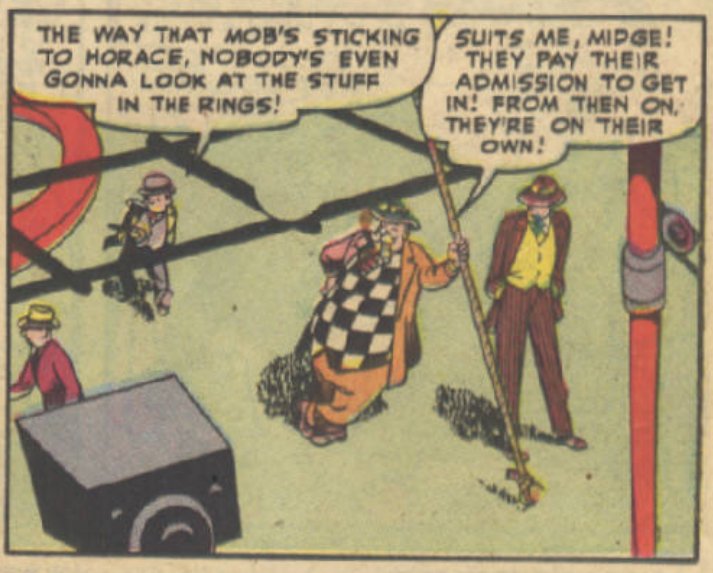
THE BARKER

What Carnie Calahan, the genial *BARKER*, doesn't know is that Horoscope Horace himself may become quite a pain to all and sundry in Colonel Lane's Mammoth Circus!

AN ASTROLOGER! PHOOEY! WHAT KIND OF A PITCH CAN I DREAM UP FOR CORN LIKE THAT!
HOROSCOPE HORACE
ANY KIND'LL DO! THE CROWD GOES FOR HIM! THAT'S WHAT COUNTS!

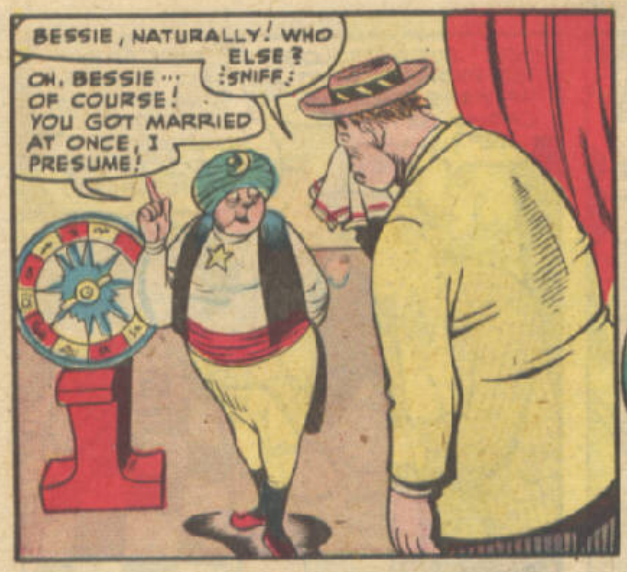
SURE! BUT ASTROLOGERS ARE PHONIES! WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE CROWD GETS HEP?
THEY AREN'T ALL PHONIES! SOME OF THEM ARE GOOD! HOROSCOPE HORACE IS ONE OF THE BEST!

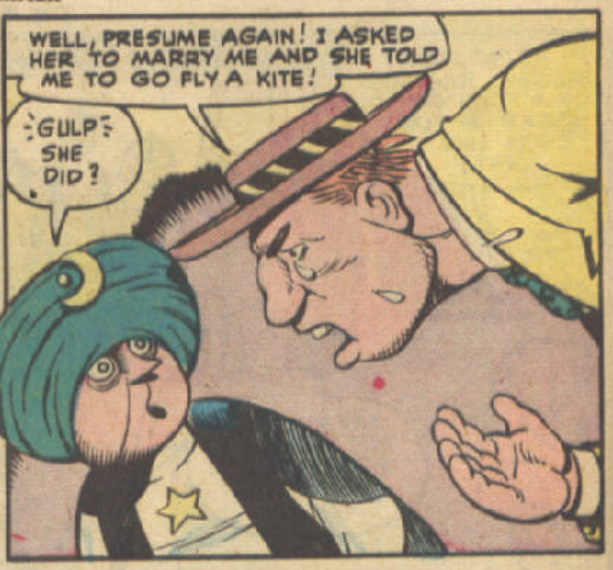
YEAH! THAT'S WHAT HE SAID!

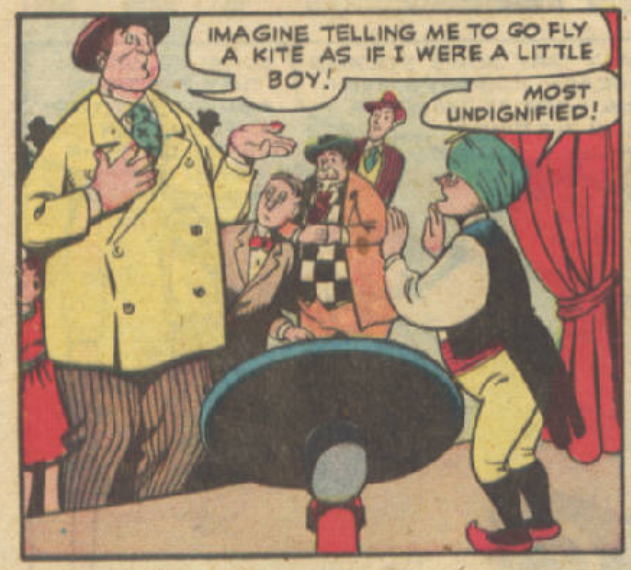

THE WAY THAT MOB'S STICKING TO HORACE, NOBODY'S EVEN GONNA LOOK AT THE STUFF IN THE RINGS!
SUITS ME, MIDGE! THEY PAY THEIR ADMISSION TO GET IN! FROM THEN ON, THEY'RE ON THEIR OWN!

OMIGOSH ··· LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT GUY! AND HE'S BAWLING LIKE A BABY!

SNIFF! YESTERDAY YOU SAID MY HOROSCOPE SAID THAT SHE'D SAY YES! SNIFF!
WHO WOULD SAY YES, MY GOOD MAN?


BESSIE, NATURALLY! WHO ELSE? :SNIFF:
OH, BESSIE... OF COURSE! YOU GOT MARRIED AT ONCE, I PRESUME!


WELL, PRESUME AGAIN! I ASKED HER TO MARRY ME AND SHE TOLD ME TO GO FLY A KITE!
:GULP: SHE DID?


IMAGINE TELLING ME TO GO FLY A KITE AS IF I WERE A LITTLE BOY!
MOST UNDIGNIFIED!

HOW DARE YOU SAY BESSIE'D SUGGEST ANYTHING UNDIGNIFIED? WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
ABOUT WHAT?

ABOUT YOUR PREDICTION, NATURALLY! YOU SAID IT WAS IN THE STARS FOR BESSIE TO SAY YES AND MARRY ME!
NOW LET'S NOT BE HASTY! WE'LL CHECK THAT HOROSCOPE AGAIN!

LET'S SEE... YOU WERE BORN IN MARCH... BESSIE WAS BORN IN JULY... AHA! THERE'S NO QUESTION ABOUT IT! YOU'RE MEANT FOR EACH OTHER!

ONLY SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO THINK SO! REMEMBER?
GRAWK! YES! YOU MENTIONED THAT, DIDN'T YOU?

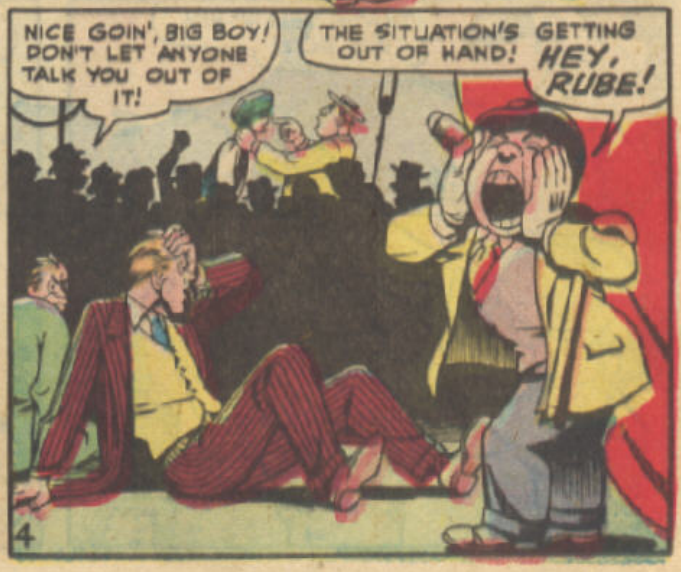
YOU PHONY! I'LL MAUL YOU GOOD!
GIVE IT TO HIM, BIG BOY! HE'S GOT NO RIGHT TO MAKE DUPES AND DOPES OF INNOCENT PEOPLE!

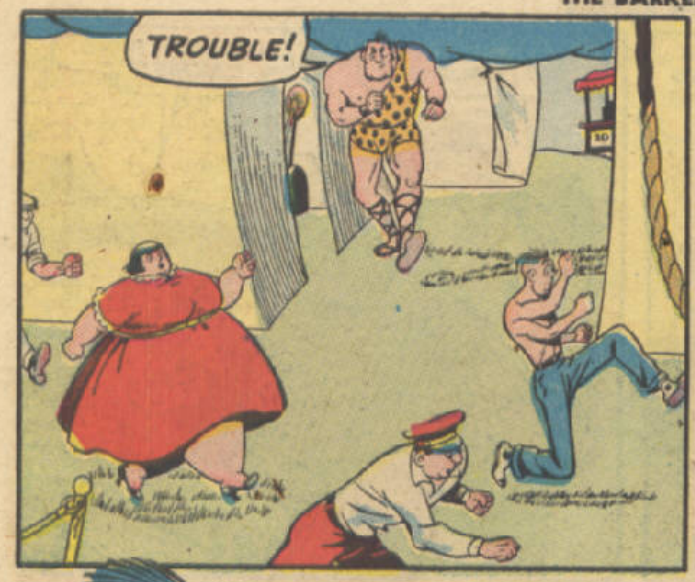
WHAT DID I TELL YOU, COLONEL?
DO SOMETHING, CARNIE!

NOW LOOK, FRIEND! THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME MISTAKE!

GO AWAY, GNAT!

YOU ANNOY ME!

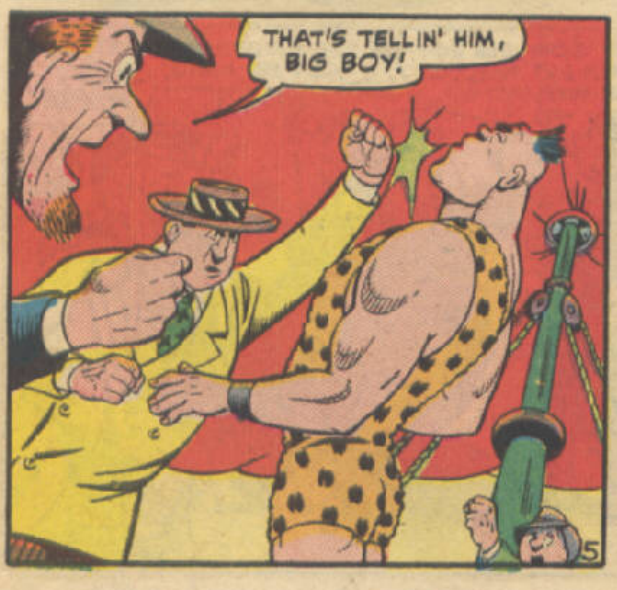

NICE GOIN', BIG BOY! DON'T LET ANYONE TALK YOU OUT OF IT!
THE SITUATION'S GETTING OUT OF HAND!
HEY, RUBE!


TROUBLE!

TAKE HIM, TINY! BUT NOT TOO ROUGH!
CHECK!

JUST A MINUTE, PAL! THIS ISN'T A NICE THING TO DO!

WHO ASKED YOU?

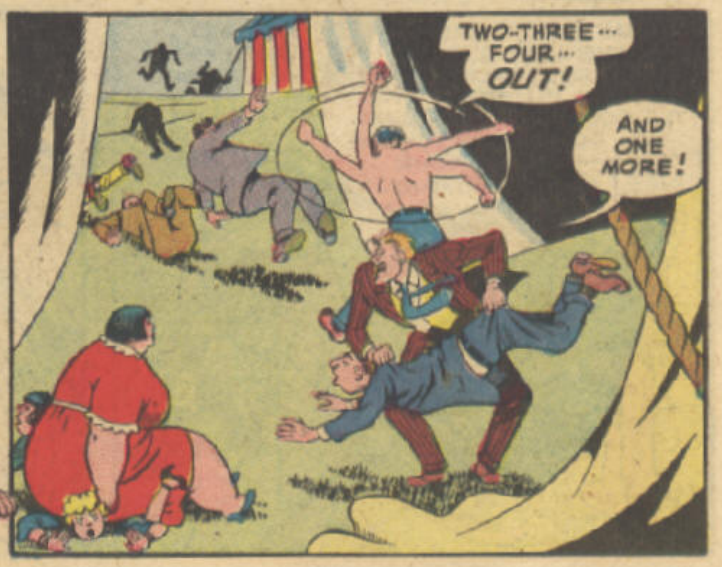

THAT'S TELLIN' HIM, BIG BOY!

YOU ASKED FOR IT!
NO FAIR! THAT GIANT'S BULLYING OUR MAN!

WE WON'T LET HIM GET AWAY WITH IT!

THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE, GANG! LET'S GO!
I'M GOING ON ALL FOUR!

IT ISN'T OFTEN I MEET SOMEONE MY SIZE! THIS WORK-OUT IS A PLEASURE!
THIS IS NO PLACE FOR ME! IT ISN'T IN MY STARS!


TWO-THREE... FOUR... OUT!
AND ONE MORE!

A FINE MESS! WHY DO THESE THINGS ALWAYS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME?
I TOLD YOU THAT ASTROLOGER WAS A PHONY! THIS WAS INEVITABLE!

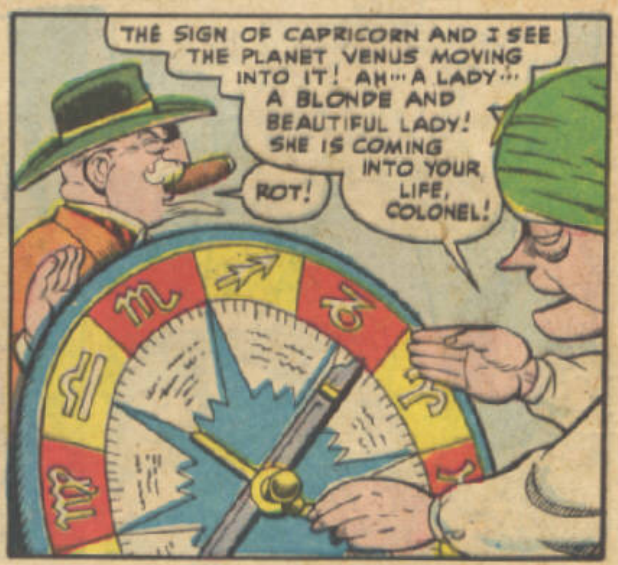
A MOST DISTRESSING SITUATION! NOT ONLY IS THE HONOR OF MY PROFESSION AT STAKE, BUT I'LL BE OUT OF A SOFT JOB! I'VE GOT TO MAKE A STRONG IMPRESSION ON THESE CIRCUS BUMPKINS!

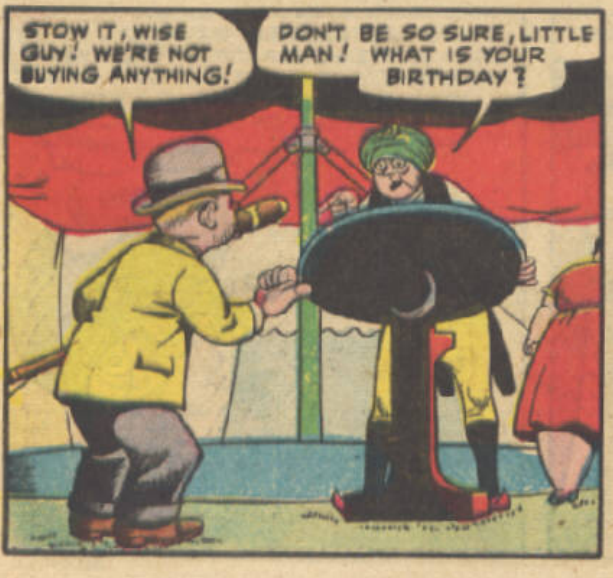
A VERY UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT, COLONEL! YOU HAVE MY REGRETS!
AND YOU HAVE MY TWO WEEKS NOTICE, HOROSCOPE HORACE! AND WHAT'S MORE, YOU NEEDN'T CON MY CUSTOMERS WITH YOUR FAKE ASTROLOGY WHILE YOU'RE HANGING AROUND!

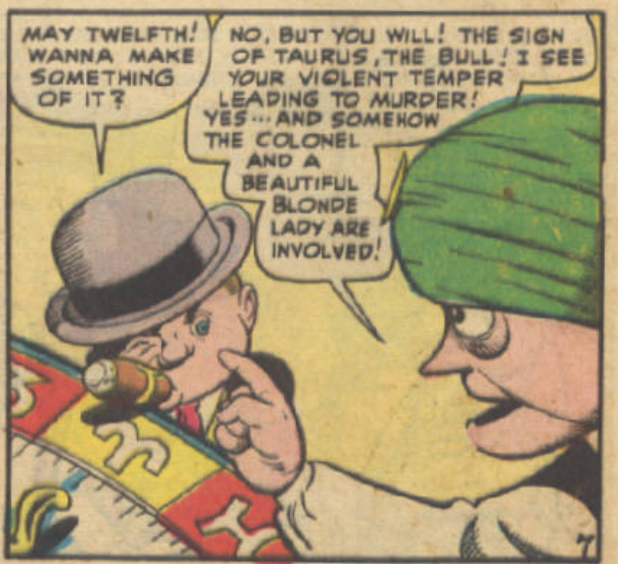
FAKE? DID YOU SAY FAKE?
I DID!

AND YOU, MY FRIENDS, DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COLONEL?
YEAH!

IN THAT CASE, THERE IS NOTHING LEFT BUT TO PROVE HOW WRONG YOU ALL ARE! I'LL START WITH THE COLONEL! SURELY, SIR, YOU DON'T MIND TELLING ME YOUR BIRTHDAY!
JANUARY FOURTEENTH! WHAT ABOUT IT?


THE SIGN OF CAPRICORN AND I SEE THE PLANET VENUS MOVING INTO IT! AH··· A LADY··· A BLONDE AND BEAUTIFUL LADY! SHE IS COMING INTO YOUR LIFE, COLONEL!
ROT!

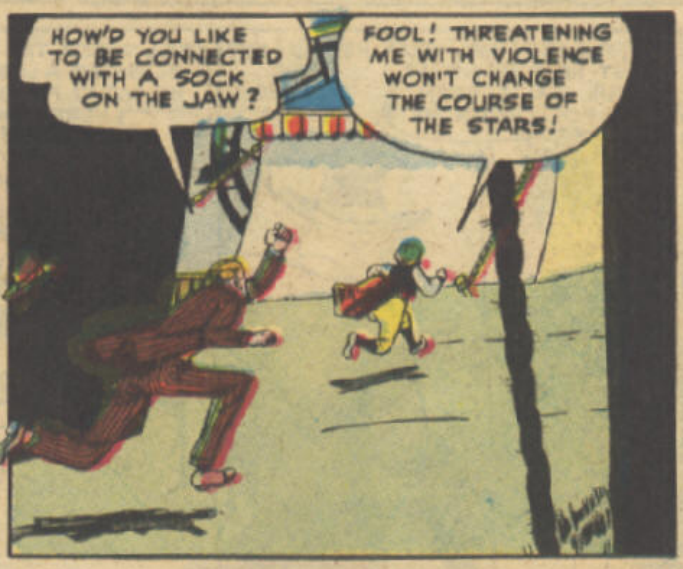

STOW IT, WISE GUY! WE'RE NOT BUYING ANYTHING!
DON'T BE SO SURE, LITTLE MAN! WHAT IS YOUR BIRTHDAY?


MAY TWELFTH! WANNA MAKE SOMETHING OF IT?
NO, BUT YOU WILL! THE SIGN OF TAURUS, THE BULL! I SEE YOUR VIOLENT TEMPER LEADING TO MURDER! YES··· AND SOMEHOW THE COLONEL AND A BEAUTIFUL BLONDE LADY ARE INVOLVED!

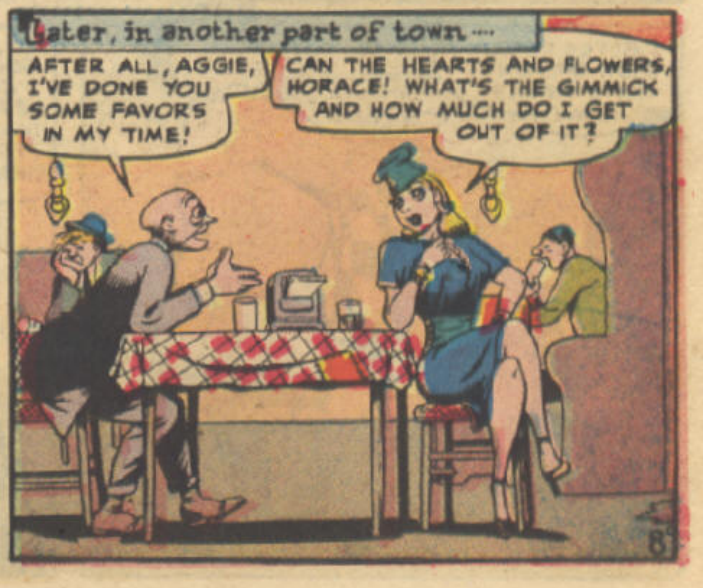
THAT'S ENOUGH, LOUD MOUTH! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH TROUBLE BECAUSE OF YOU AND WE DON'T INTEND TO STAND AROUND WHILE YOU DREAM UP INSULTING STORIES ABOUT US!
STORIES I DREAM UP, EH? ARE YOU SURE OF THAT? YOU WOULDN'T CARE TO TELL ME YOUR BIRTHDAY, WOULD YOU, CALAHAN?

ALL RIGHT, IF IT'LL PERSUADE YOU TO PACK UP AND BEAT IT! SEPTEMBER TENTH!
SEPTEMBER TENTH! VIRGO! THE SIGN OF AN INTELLIGENT MAN!

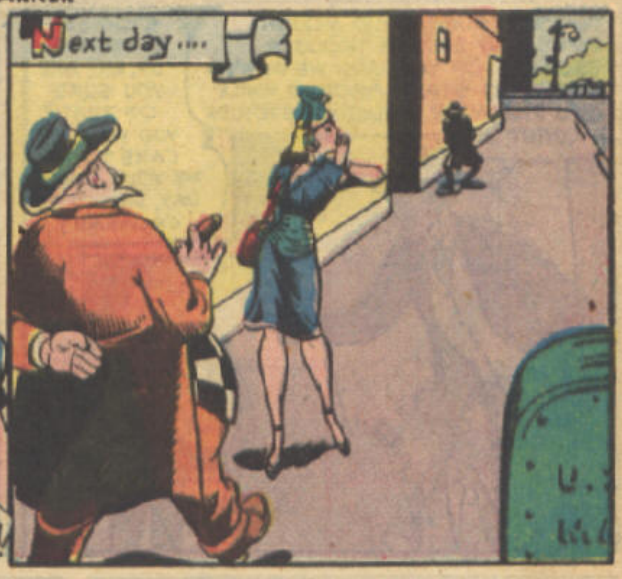
I CAN'T HELP AGREEING WITH YOU ON THAT, HORACE! BUT SOFT SOAP WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD!
INTELLIGENT, YES! BUT TO WHAT WILL IT LEAD? TO ROBBERY! YES, CALAHAN, YOUR HOROSCOPE SHOWS THAT YOU WILL STEAL AND YOUR FRIENDS, MIDGE AND THE COLONEL, ARE CONNECTED WITH THIS SOMEHOW!


HOW'D YOU LIKE TO BE CONNECTED WITH A SOCK ON THE JAW?
FOOL! THREATENING ME WITH VIOLENCE WON'T CHANGE THE COURSE OF THE STARS!

ANYWAY NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!


Later, in another part of town....
AFTER ALL, AGGIE, I'VE DONE YOU SOME FAVORS IN MY TIME!
CAN THE HEARTS AND FLOWERS, HORACE! WHAT'S THE GIMMICK AND HOW MUCH DO I GET OUT OF IT?

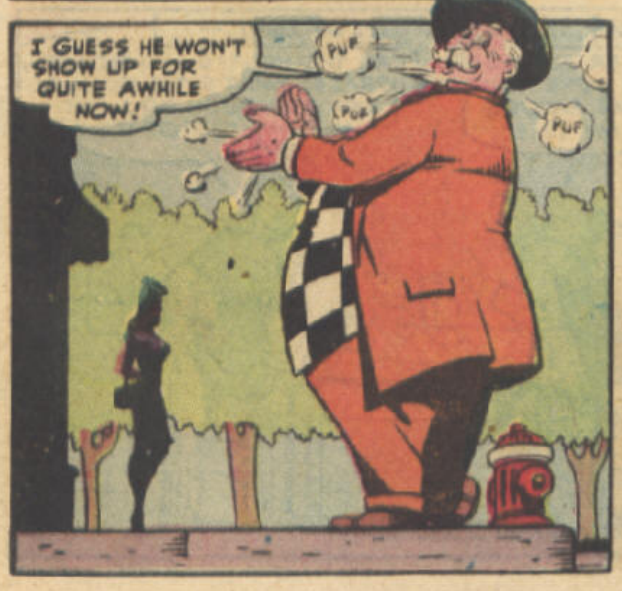
PLENTY, IF YOU WORK IT RIGHT! NOW LISTEN TO ME....
I'M ALL EARS!


Next day....

OH, PLEASE, SIR, YOU MUST HELP ME! THAT AWFUL MAN'S BEEN FOLLOWING ME!
HE HAS? WHY ... THE SCOUNDREL! THE BLACK-GUARD!

I'LL TEACH THE BLIGHTER A LESSON HE WON'T FORGET! HERE ... YOU CAD!

A COWARD, TOO!


I GUESS HE WON'T SHOW UP FOR QUITE AWHILE NOW!
PUF
PUF
PUF

OH, YOU WERE WONDERFUL... SO MASTERFUL... SO HEROIC! I CAN NEVER THANK YOU ENOUGH!
POOF! ANY GENTLEMAN WOULD HAVE DONE AS MUCH FOR A LADY IN DIS-TRESS!

WELL, I MUST GO NOW! THANK YOU AGAIN!
ER.. HARUMPH... MUST YOU GO SO SOON? MY NAME IS COLONEL LANE! I'M HAVING LUNCH WITH A COUPLE OF FRIENDS! WON'T YOU JOIN US?

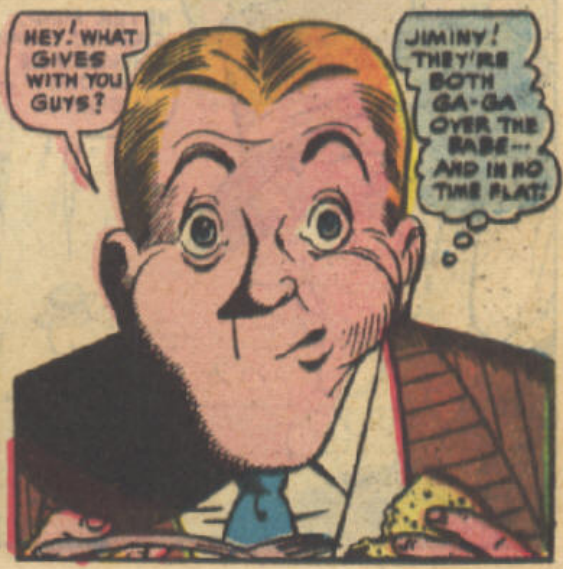
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T, COLONEL, BUT YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF MAN A GIRL CAN SAY NO TO!
HARUMPH! THIS IS A PLEASURE... A PLEASURE!

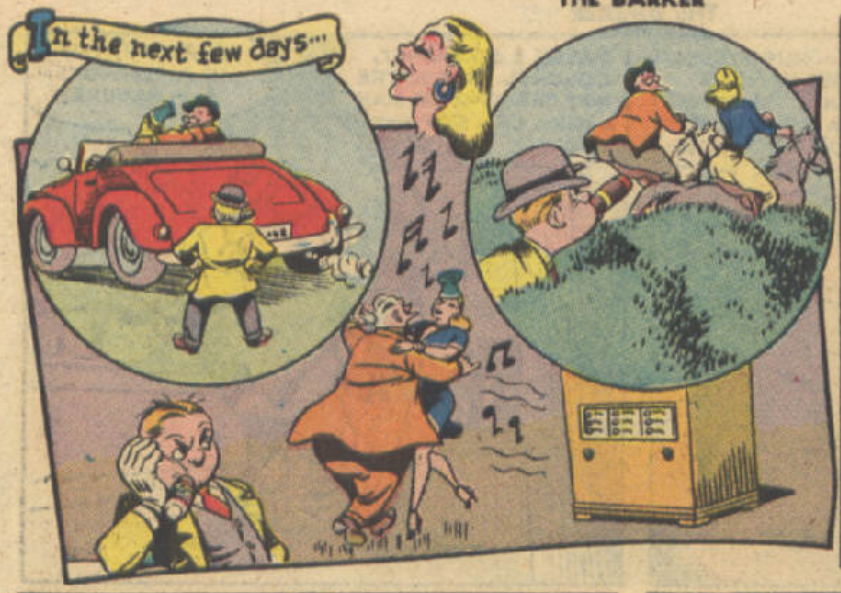
WHAT A CINCH! A REAL BREEZE! WHEN AGGIE TURNS ON THE COYNESS AND CHARM, MEN OF IRON TURN TO JELLY!

HI, COLONEL! YOU'RE LATE... WE'VE ALREADY ORDERED... ER.. GULP!
SORRY, CARNIE... I WAS DELAYED!

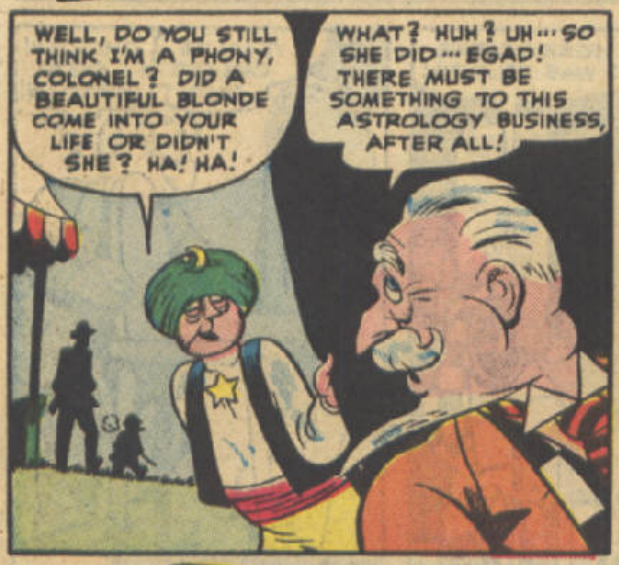
YEAH! WE CAN SEE THAT!
OMIGOSH! SHE'S GORGEOUS!

YOU BOYS OUGHT TO EAT SOMETHING... THE FOOD'S GOOD HERE!
FOOD? WHAT'S THAT?


HEY! WHAT GIVES WITH YOU GUYS?
JIMINY! THEY'RE BOTH GA-GA OVER THE BABE... AND IN NO TIME FLAT!

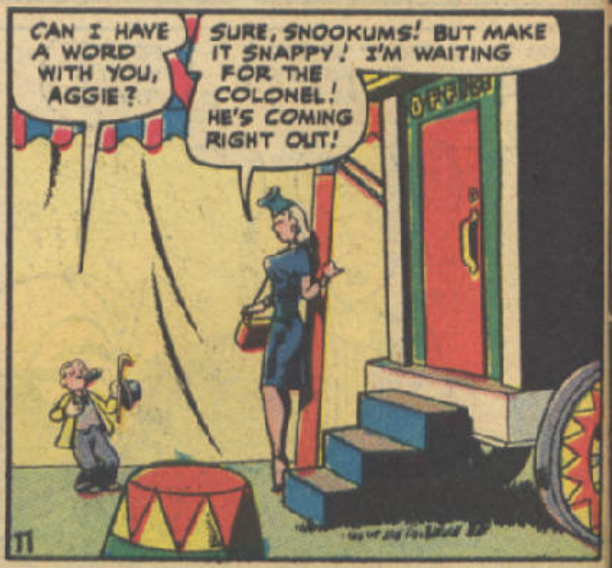

In the next few days...

AND YOU'LL SELL THIS NASTY OLD CIRCUS SO WE CAN ALWAYS BE TOGETHER AND HAVE FUN, WON'T YOU, LAMBSIE PAMBSIE?
FOR YOU, ANGEL, I'D DO ANYTHING IN THE WORLD!


WELL, DO YOU STILL THINK I'M A PHONY, COLONEL? DID A BEAUTIFUL BLONDE COME INTO YOUR LIFE OR DIDN'T SHE? HA! HA!
WHAT? HUH? UH... SO SHE DID... EGAD! THERE MUST BE SOMETHING TO THIS ASTROLOGY BUSINESS, AFTER ALL!

HA! HA!
I DON'T LIKE WHATEVER IT IS THAT'S TICKLING HORACE... AND I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THE COLONEL'S ACTING THESE DAYS... AND BY THE WAY, WHAT'S EATING YOU, MIDGE?

NEVER MIND, CARNIE! SOME THINGS ARE MY OWN BUSINESS!

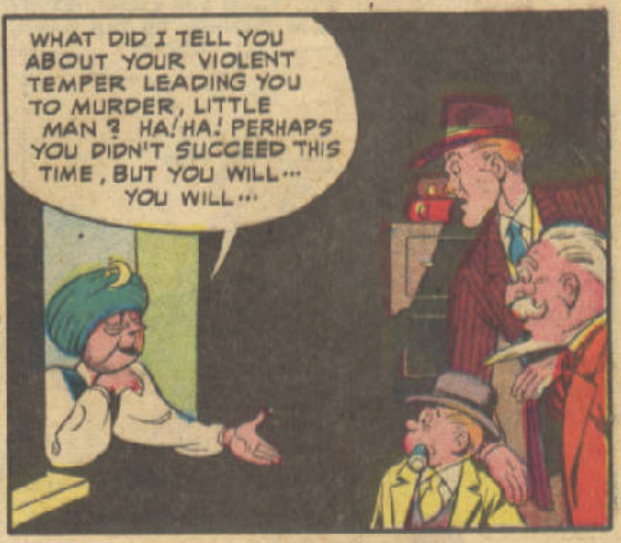

CAN I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU, AGGIE?
SURE, SNOOKUMS! BUT MAKE IT SNAPPY! I'M WAITING FOR THE COLONEL! HE'S COMING RIGHT OUT!

WHY WON'T YOU GIVE ME A TUMBLE, AGGIE? YOU MUST KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU! I'M JUST CRAZY IN LOVE WITH YOU!
AND YOU'RE CUTE, TOO, SNOOKUMS! BUT THE COLONEL CAN DO A BETTER JOB OF SUPPORTING ME IN THE STYLE TO TO WHICH I'M UNACCUSTOMED!

SO THAT'S IT! AND THE OLD DUFFER THOUGHT HE WAS A BETTER MAN THAN I AM!
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

SO YOU THOUGHT AGGIE WENT FOR YOU, EH, COLONEL? WELL, YOU CAN THINK AGAIN! IT'S ME SHE GOES FOR! SHE'S ONLY INTERESTED IN YOUR DOUGH! WHY DON'T YOU GET WISE TO YOURSELF AND LEAVE HER TO ME?

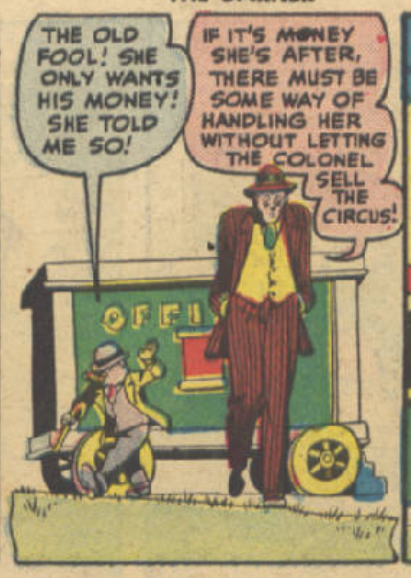
WHY YOU LYING LITTLE WORM! I'LL TEAR YOU...
HERE! WHAT ON EARTH'S GOING ON? NIX, MIDGE!
LET ME AT HIM! I'LL KILL HIM BEFORE I'LL LET HIM HAVE AGGIE!


WHAT DID I TELL YOU ABOUT YOUR VIOLENT TEMPER LEADING YOU TO MURDER, LITTLE MAN? HA! HA! PERHAPS YOU DIDN'T SUCCEED THIS TIME, BUT YOU WILL... YOU WILL...

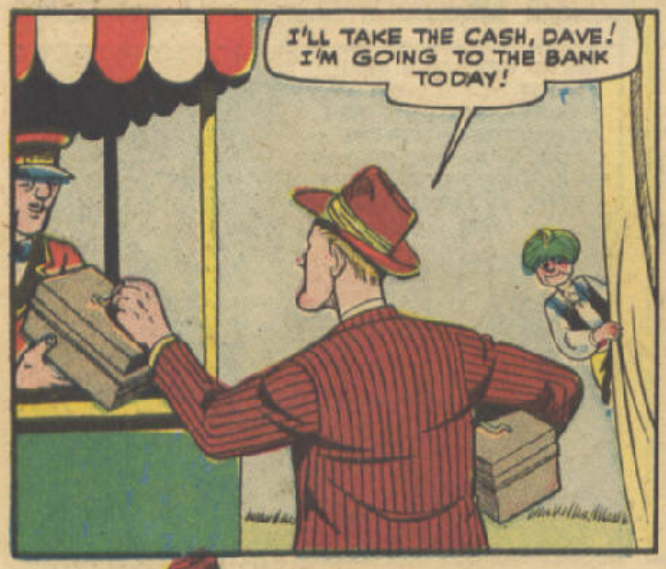
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO BEAT IT!
HA! HA! YOU STILL THINK YOU CAN CHANGE THE COURSE OF THE STARS BY THREATENING ME!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S COME OVER YOU GUYS! YOU'RE ACTING LIKE SCHOOL-BOYS OVER THAT DAME!
WE WON'T DISCUSS HER, CARNIE! I'M SELLING THE CIRCUS SO I CAN MARRY HER AND SPEND EVERY MINUTE IN HER COMPANY!

WHAT? YOU MUST BE NUTS!
THAT'S ENOUGH, CALAHAN! IT'S MY CIRCUS AND I'LL DO AS I PLEASE!


THE OLD FOOL! SHE ONLY WANTS HIS MONEY! SHE TOLD ME SO!
IF IT'S MONEY SHE'S AFTER, THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OF HANDLING HER WITHOUT LETTING THE COLONEL SELL THE CIRCUS!

I'VE GOT IT! I'LL BORROW THE BOX-OFFICE RECEIPTS AND BUY AGGIE OFF! WHEN THE COLONEL REALIZES SHE WAS ONLY AFTER MONEY, HE'LL FIGURE IT WAS A CHEAP PRICE TO GET RID OF HER!


I'LL TAKE THE CASH, DAVE! I'M GOING TO THE BANK TODAY!

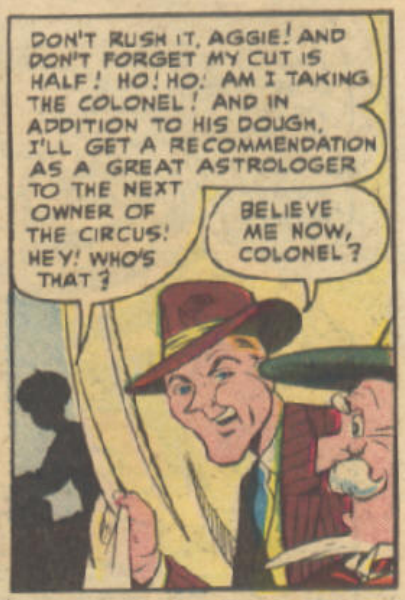
NOT FIGURING ON STEALING THAT MONEY, ARE YOU, CALAHAN? HA! HA!
WHAT DID I TELL YOU ABOUT ROBBERY BEING IN YOUR STARS?
WHY, YOU...

GOLLY! HE'S HALF RIGHT! WHAT'S COME OVER ME? I'M GOING TO THE COLONEL AND TELL HIM ALL ABOUT IT! WE'RE ALL BEHAVING LIKE SCREWBALLS!

YES, THAT'S WHAT I WAS GOING TO DO, COLONEL.... I TELL YOU I WAS DESPERATE TO KEEP THE CIRCUS FROM SLIPPING AWAY FROM YOU!
YOU AMAZE ME, CARNIE! I CAN FORGIVE THE-ER-ATTEMPT AT CRIME... BUT NOT YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD AGGIE! I TELL YOU SHE LOVES ME!

OH, YEAH? SH-H! LISTEN!
DID THE COLONEL COME OUT OF HIS OFFICE YET, HORACE? THAT BRAWL HAD ME WORRIED .... I THOUGHT I'D DUCK UNTIL IT WAS OVER!

DON'T WORRY AGGIE! EVERYTHING'S WORKING OUT AS I PLANNED! I KNEW THEY'D GO FOR YOU AND WE COULDN'T MISS! WHY, EVEN MY GUESS ABOUT CALAHAN STEALING TO BREAK UP OUR GAME CAME TRUE!
WELL, I'M GETTING A LITTLE NERVOUS! I'D LIKE TO GET MY HOOKS ON THE COLONEL'S CASH AND LIGHT OUT!

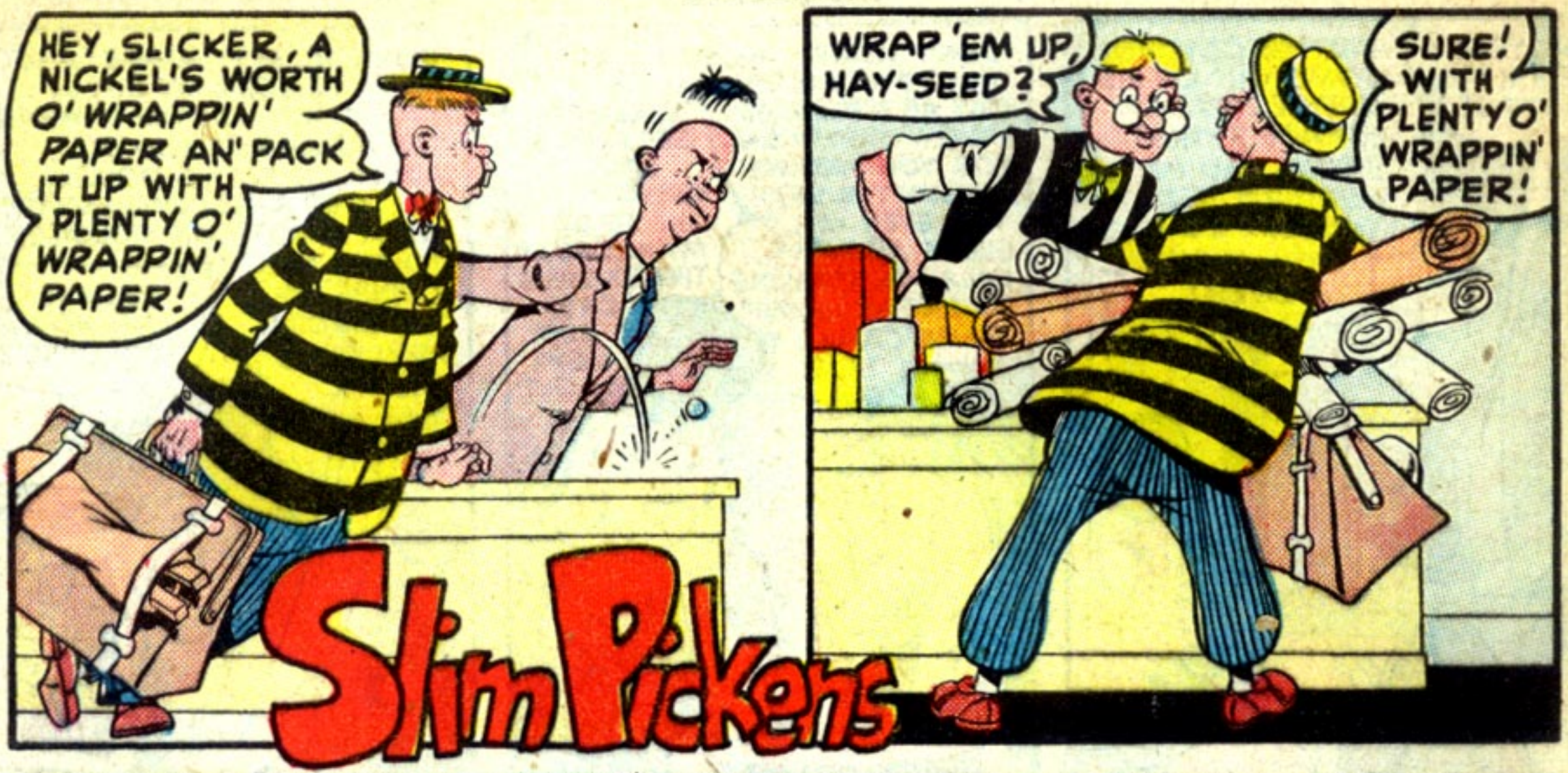

DON'T RUSH IT, AGGIE! AND DON'T FORGET MY CUT IS HALF! HO! HO! AM I TAKING THE COLONEL! AND IN ADDITION TO HIS DOUGH, I'LL GET A RECOMMENDATION AS A GREAT ASTROLOGER TO THE NEXT OWNER OF THE CIRCUS! HEY! WHO'S THAT?
BELIEVE ME NOW, COLONEL?

GOOD BYE, AGGIE! I'M AFRAID IT WAS ALL A GREAT MISTAKE! NOW GO!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO, HORACE ...

... I'LL SEND YOU ON YOUR WAY!
SOK!

WE WERE BOTH PRETTY SILLY, MIDGE! LET'S SHAKE AND FORGET IT!
SUITS ME, COLONEL! AGGIE WAS QUITE A BABE BUT NOT WORTHY OF EITHER OF US!

AND NO MORE PHONY ASTROLOGERS UNDER THIS TENT!
THAT'S AN ORDER!


HEY, SLICKER, A NICKEL'S WORTH O' WRAPPIN' PAPER AN' PACK IT UP WITH PLENTY O' WRAPPIN' PAPER!
WRAP 'EM UP, HAY-SEED?
SURE! WITH PLENTY O' WRAPPIN' PAPER!
Slim Pickens

I'M A SMOOTH OPERATOR! WHEN I NEED WRAPPIN' PAPER, I SURE KNOW HOW T'GET IT!
AN' I THINK MEBBE I GOT ENUF NOW!

OH, NO! NOT A TRAFFIC TIE-UP... JUST WHEN I'M GOING ON DUTY!
MIDTOWN BRIDGE

WHAT TH'..? HEY! WHAT'SA IDEA BLOCKING OFF THE BRIDGE LIKE THIS?

NOW THET'S A DANG FOOL QUESTION! I GOT A BIG ENOUGH WRAPPIN' JOB T'DO WITHOUT A BUNCH O' CITY DRIVERS BUZZIN' AROUND ME!

AN' WHEN I THINKS O' TH' JOB I'M AGONNA HAVE TAKIN' M'BRIDGE HOME, I WISH I'DA BOUGHTEN THE GOLD BRICK INSTEAD!

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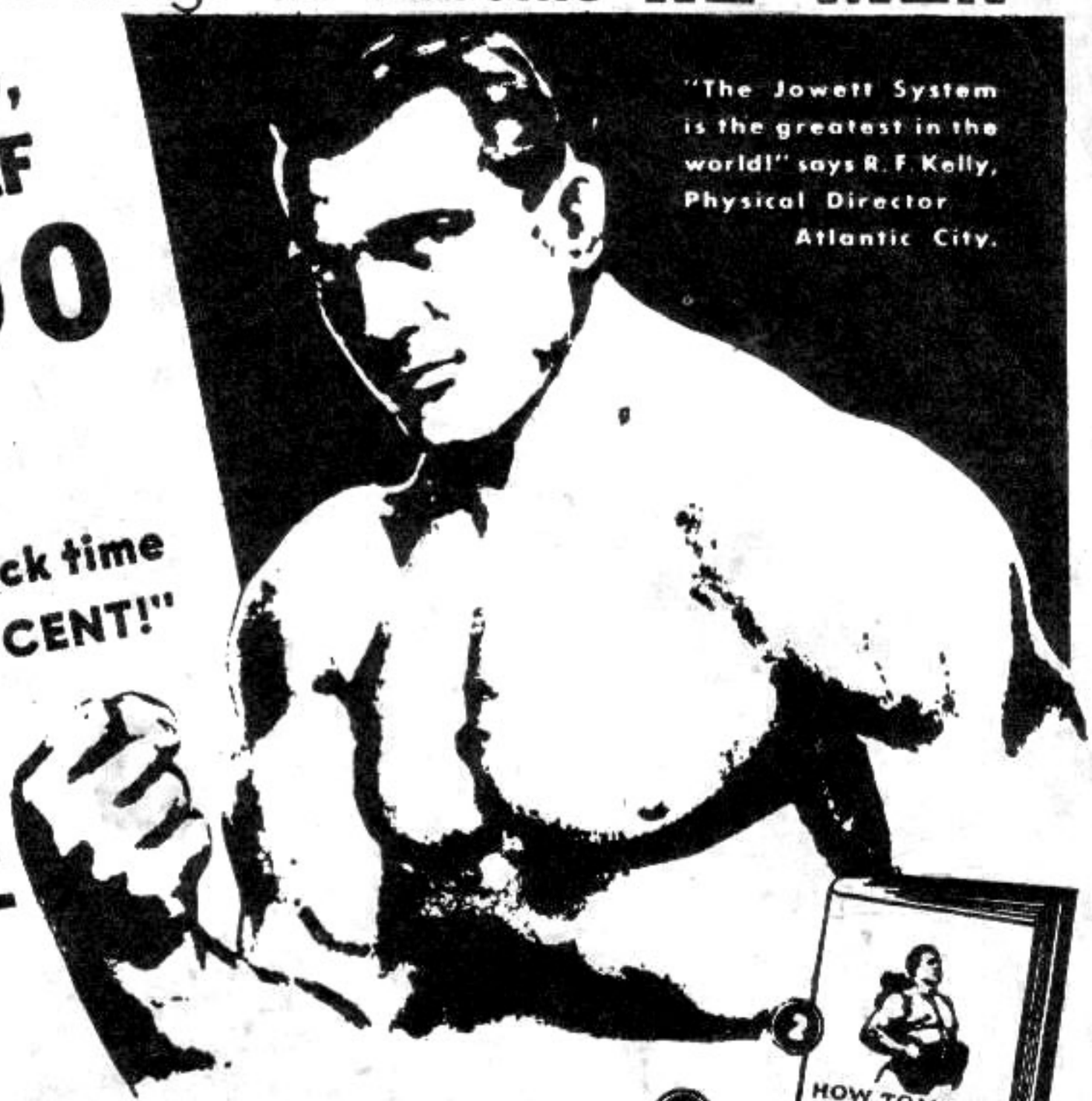

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MEMORIZE THE SHOOTER'S SAFETY PLEDGE!

I pledge myself to PROTECT animals, property and people in my community by always aiming and shooting my Daisy safely!

SAFETY TIPS

BICYCLE SAFELY...

Careless bicycling may cause accidents! Always ride single file. Never "hitch on" to car or truck. Follow all traffic signs, rules. Avoid ruts. Ride close to right edge of road. Use hand signals for turns, stops.

ROLLER SKATE SAFELY...

Avoid roller skating accidents by being careful. Always skate on sidewalk. Come to stop at curbs. Cross streets at corners only. Do not "hitch" on to bicyclists. Cross small cracks at right angles.

DRIVE SAFELY...

An average of more than ONE MILLION children, women, men are injured every year in traffic accidents! Think that over, Buddy! Decide now that when you are *old enough* to get your driver's license—and after you get it—you will *remember* and *follow* the safety driving rules you learned.

CROSS STREETS SAFELY...

Always stop at curb, look right and left to see if street is clear. Cross streets only at corners. Obey signal lights. Remember, an auto moves *faster* than you can run. And don't run . . . walk!

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